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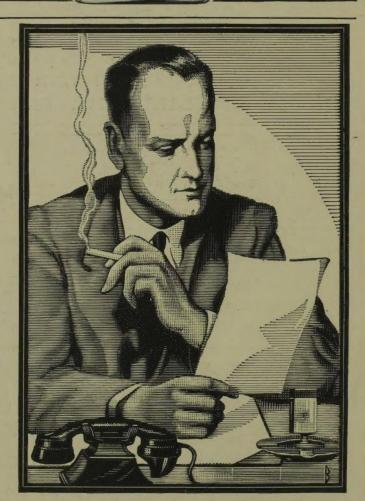
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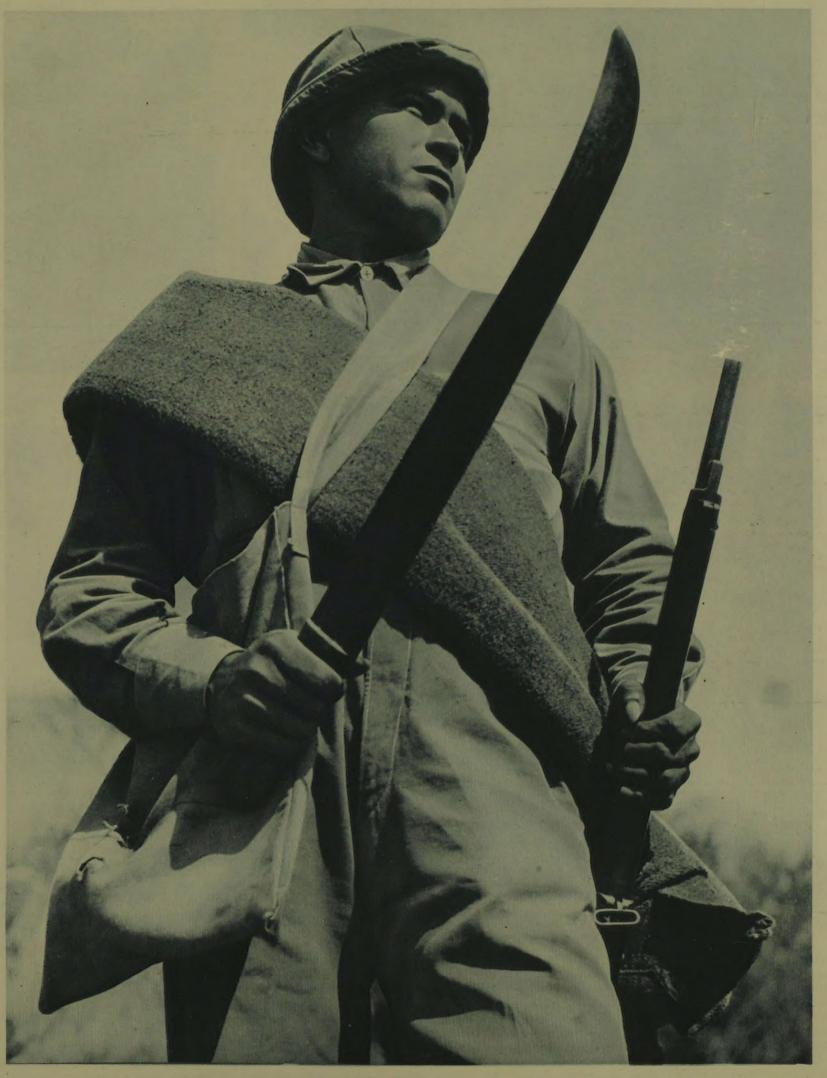
The difference may not be pronounced, but it is always there...a mellowness, a mild flavour, a delightful character, which is appreciated by all discriminating smokers.



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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1934.

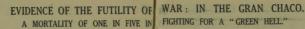


EVIDENCE OF THE FUTILITY OF WAR: TWO AND A HALF YEARS' FIGHTING FOR A SEMI-SWAMP:

A PARAGUAYAN SOLDIER IN THE GRAN CHACO, ARMED WITH RIFLE AND MACHETE.



A PARAGUAYAN PATROL IN THE "GREEN HELL" THAT FORMS THE FIGHTING ZONE IN THE GRAN CHACO WAR: AN ALARM IN THE SEMI-SWAMP, WHERE ADVANCE IS ONLY POSSIBLE AT TIMES BY CUTTING A WAY THROUGH THE JUNGLE GROWTH WITH MACHETES





A TYPE UTILISED BY BOTH THE PARAGUAYANS AND THEIR ESTABLISHED A NUMBER OF ISOLATED POSTS, STOCKADES,



WOUNDED AND SICK WAITING TO BE REMOVED TO HOSPITAL: CASUALTIES TYPICAL OF THE MANY WHO HAD TO TRAVEL BETWEEN 250 AND 300 MILES IN BULLOCK-WAGGONS BEFORE AMBULANCE AEROPLANES WERE IMPORTED INTO THE TERRIBLE GRAN CHACO FIGHTING ZONE.



AFTER GUERRILLA WARFARE AGAINST THE MANY ISOLATED OUTFOSTS HAD CEASED AND IT HAD BECOME NECESSARY TO DIG IN: FARAGOLVAN TERNICIES IN THE GRAN CHACK WAR FOCCUST ON THE SAME LINES AS THE GREAT WAR BY A FOLLOWER OF MARSHAL FOCU.

Broadcasting on "How the Chaco War is Being Fought," a talk afterwards printed in "The Listener," Dr. J. W. Lindsay, who has been working from the beginning of hostilities as a doctor of the Paraguayan Red Cross and Director of one of the military hospitals of the Paraguayan Army, said of the fighting he had witnessed: "The war in its history and strategy has been a replica in miniature of the Great European War, but the slaughter has

been more frightful than in any modern war. The South African War had a mortality of one in twenty; fourteen years' improvement in armaments gave the European War a mortality of one in ten; and exactly fourteen more years of scientific improvement in the machinery of war has in the Chaco War given a mortality of one in five." When the strife started between Bolivia and Paraguay-both members of the League of Nations-there were no roads in the war zone. Now there are roads; there are motorforries instead of bullock-waggons for the transport of troops, food supplies, and war material; and ambulance aeroplanes carry the wounded to properly equipped hospitals. Further, said Dr. Lindsay, "both armies have imported all the most modern weapons of war: tanks, light artillery, light and heavy machine-guns, rifles and bayonets, and aeroplanes of every kind." The tanks were tried, but the terrain defeated them. Cas has not been used because the terrible heat prevents the wearing of gas-masks. For the same reason, there are no steel helmets. Otherwise, civilisation has done its best! And what is the war for, this war in a "Green Hell" of swamp



DOUBTLESS ONE OF THE REASONS WHY BOLIVIA DECIDED TO MAN-POWER FOR SERVICE IN THE FIELD AND BEHIND THE FRONT AND REPRESENTING A CONSIDERABLE ORDER THE MOBILISATION OF THE WHOLE OF THE NATION'S LINES: BOLIVIAN PRISONERS DRAWN UP ON THE PARAGUAYAN TOTAL OF CAPTIVES.



WITH A SENTRY-BOX MADE FROM A BOTTLE-TREE (ZANUU): THE HEADQUARTERS OF GENERAL DON JOSE ESTICARRIBIA, THE PARAGUAYAN COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, WHO SERVED IN THE GREAT WAR AND IS AN EXPONENT OF THE STRATECY FAVOURED BY MARSHAL FOCK.

and jungle? Writing to "The Times," Lord Luke gave the answer: "A country like Bolivia, with 594,000 square miles, would not trouble about a semi-swamp like the Gran Chaco [the precise area in dispute is known as the Chaco Boreal and covers about a hundred thousand square miles of "No Man's Land"] but for the fact that she wants a port on the Paraguay River, the great waterway that

leads down to the River Plate. Even if she were successful in obtaining a strip of land through the Gran Chaco, down to a point opposite Asuncion, the building of a railway, without which transport would be impossible, would entail years of construction and probably present serious financial difficulties." Yet, as we write, a "Times" cable from New York says: "The Paraguayans and Bolivians are both reported to be determined to fight out the war in Gran Chaco to a finish. Neither side, it is taid, is really expecting peace to be brought about by the latest formula of the League of Nations. Bolivia has ordered the mobilisation of the nation's entire manpower for service in the field and behind the lines." At the same time, the "Daily Telegraph" correspondent in Geneva reported that heavy reverses had induced Bolivia to accept the League of Nations' recommendations as a basis for establishing peace. Paraguay had not then replied. Possibly-just possibly-something will have been settled before these pictures are published.—[Photographs Taken on the Paraguayan Front by Willi Ruce.]



BY G. K. CHESTERTON.

AS it seems probable that these words will appear at Christmas time, I shall devote them shamelessly to the glorification of Christmas Waits. And it amuses me to think that, amid all the invocations of Christmas and invocations to Christmas charity, I shall probably be in a minority in uttering any particular and positive eulogy of Christmas waits. It is common enough to celebrate the jovial season by making jokes about Christmas waits, but they are generally in the same vein as the jokes about Christmas bills. It is constantly said in the newspapers (and therefore it must be true) that we have everywhere increased in social sympathies and sentiments of human brotherhood, and it is sometimes even said that all classes

are drawing together in mutual under-standing. I am sure I hope it may be so; indeed I think that in certain special social aspects it is so. But I notice that, in many houses where a previous generation accepted waits and carol-singers, even if they grumbled at them in secret, with all the external courtesy and resignation of Duke Theseus listening to the play of Pyramus and Thisbe in "A Midsummer Night's Dream," many of a later generation have grown less patient and less polite. I also notice that, over whole vast districts of the modern urban civilisation, whole streets are plastered with pla-cards forbidding hawkers and streetcries; lest the ancient institution of the pedlar or the last of the old music of London should disturb those within who are in-tently occupied, let us hope, in studying books on evolutionary ethics by Cambridge economists
which demonstrateso radiantly the need of social contacts and the removal of all barriers between class

and class. Having read a vast number of that sort of book in my time, I am still not entirely satisfied that, in every respect, they are invariably more human and amusing than the talk of Autolycus or the tune of "Cherry-Ripe."

But there is a special case for carol-singers, because they come at a time when our whole tradition has always told us to be charitable to strangers, even to beggars. Of course, carol-singers are not in any sense whatever beggars. They are people offering something in return for money; we may not happen to think it is worth the money, and I happen to think exactly the same of about three-quarters of the things that are most boomed and pushed in the modern business market. But in so far as many of us do pay for the entertainment, even when we do not particularly want the entertainment, and do it from motives of charity, the waits or carol-singers can in that sense be put into the same class as beggars, and sink instantly to the abject and degraded condition of Homer or St. Francis of Assisi. And it is in a sense about this problem of beggars, or of those who in one aspect are in the position of beggars, that I am disposed to raise a very general question and remark on a general comparison.

I happen myself to represent, more or less, a general moral philosophy which until very lately was the general moral philosophy of most nations and even most confessions in Europe. And in nothing was that general tradition of our fathers more criticised by our contemporaries than in its alleged contentment with casual and sporadic charity; or, in other words, the habit of giving money to beggars. Now, there is a rather interesting parallel here, between the nineteenth-century attitude towards the problem of the beggar and the twentieth-century attitude towards the problem of the soldier. Only too often, and to the deep disgrace of governments, they were the same individuals. There was a beggars' rhyme

uneconomic and therefore unethical to patch up the position of people who were in the wrong position and even in the wrong place. The theory was that such a person could eventually find his place when the whole economic community could find its level, and each person was achieving the cheapest production at the proper profit or price. The ideal, however vague, was that of a community in which everybody was living productively and profitably, and nobody was living unproductively and unprofitably. Given that ideal, or any real belief in that ideal, it is not difficult to see that the beggar appears an anomaly that ought to disappear. Unfortunately, the ideal has disappeared and the beggar has remained. Nobody now believes that mere individualism and competition will ever, of themselves, work out to that economic paradise of give and take. The

death of that delusion was hastened by the Socialists. And whatever be wrong with Socialism, it was entirely right about what is wrong with Individualism. But the Socialist, quite as much as the Individualist, necessarily and naturally regarded the beggar as an anomaly to be abol-ished. His way of abolishing him was to plan out a series of Utopias in which the State would find everybody the best work and pay everybody the best wages. I am not criticising those Utopias just now, or rather I only criticising them on one small point. So far as this argument goes there is nothing against them, except that they have not happened. Even among the Bolshevists, where something happened, it was not the abolition of beggary, whether this was the fault of the

A COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF IN THE WAR THAT IS THE LATEST EVIDENCE OF THE FUTILITY OF WAR:
GENERAL DON JOSE ESTIGARRIBIA, OF PARAGUAY; WITH HIS STAFF.

General Don Jose Estigarribia saw service during the Great War, which was to end war! He was associated with Marshal Foch, whose tactics he has employed during the fighting against the Bolivians in the Gran Chaco. Indeed, as Dr. J. W. Lindsay has pointed out, "the war in its history and strategy has been a replica in miniature of the great European War."

Photograph taken on the Paraguayan Front by Willi Ruge.

in my boyhood that ran: "Here comes a poor soldier from Botany Bay; What have you got to give him to-day?" In the eyes of many modern scientific humanitarians and philanthropists (who certainly would have nothing to give him), he would be blasted with a sort of series and crescendo of crimes; horrible because he was a beggar; horrible because he was a convict, from Botany Bay or any other convict settlement; and most horrible of all because he was a soldier. But both in his character of a beggar and his character of a soldier he offers an opportunity for explaining a certain old-fashioned point of view which I fancy the majority of modern people do not understand at all.

Those modern people who, much more than any ancient people, have refused and repulsed beggars as such were not merely brutal or stingy. The thing was perhaps at its worst in the blackest time of industrial individualism, when even the theories were brutal and stingy; we might almost say, in some cases, that the ideals were brutal and stingy. But this would be unjust to a very large number of the theorists and idealists who really did believe in plausible theories and ideals. The first theory that held the field was something like this; that it was

same problem of beggars as a rich man in the Irish famine. Now, when one theory after another thus rises and falls, and one Utopian promise after another is made and broken, is it not comprehensible that some of us think it well to save even a solitary man from starvation, while the world is making up its mind how many centuries it will take for starvation to disappear?

Bolshevists or no. A

rich man in the

Ukrainefaminewould

be faced with just the

As I have hinted, there is something of the same notion in tolerating the soldier as in tolerating the beggar. Nobody wants anybody to beg or anybody to fight. But when promise after promise of universal peace is broken, and conference after conference abandons the task of establishing international justice, is it so very odd that some people should still want something to defend national justice, in the sense of justice to their own nation? And if the beggar and the soldier seem to remain, since they seem to remainthen I do most strongly feel that it is better that they should not be regarded merely as blots or pests, but rather in the light of the traditional virtues associated with the tragedy; the one in the light of charity and the other of chivalry. I do not expect everyone, or possibly even anyone, to agree entirely with this view, but I hope that somebody will at least accept the compromise in the case of Carol-Singers or Waits.

EVIDENCE OF THE FUTILITY OF WAR: GRAN CHACO SCENES.



A CACHE OF SPARES; WHEELS FOR BULLOCK-WAGGONS KEPT IN RESERVE AT INTERVALS ON THE PARAGUAYAN LINE OF ADVANCE IN THE GRAN CHACO, A DISTRICT OF JUNGLE AND SWAMP.





BEFORE LEAVING FOR THE FIGHTING LINE: PARAGUAYAN SOLDIERS RECEIVING FROM ROMAN CATHOLIC LADIES MEDALLIONS BEARING AN IMAGE OF THE VIRGIN MARY.



A BATH MADE FROM THE TRUNK OF A BOTTLE TREE—USED BY PARAGUAYAN SOLDIERS ENGAGED AGAINST THE BOLIVIANS IN THE GRIM FIGHTING FOR A SEMI-SWAMP.



A PHASE OF THE GRAN CHACO OPERATIONS WHICH HAS CHANGED VERY MUCH FOR THE BETTER SINCE THE FIGHTING STARTED TWO AND A HALF YEARS AGO: NURSES DEALING WITH LINEN AND BANDAGES FOR THE PARAGUAYAN WOUNDED.

As we have already noted, quoting Dr. J. W. Lindsay, in "The Listener," the Gran Chaco War mortality has been one in five; whereas in the Great War the mortality was one in ten. During the earlier stages of the fighting, sick and wounded had to be brought back from the Front in ox-waggons which took from two to three weeks to cover some 250 to 300 miles; and, of course, very many died during the



IN ONE OF THE BOATS ON THE PARAGUAY RIVER, MOST OF WHICH ARE FLOATING HOSPITALS: SICK AND WOUNDED BEING MEDICALLY TREATED IN A WARD WHICH WAS FORMERLY THE CRAFT'S DINING SALOON.

journey. Since then the Paraguayans have used ambulance aeroplanes for the transport of their casualties, who arrive in hospital in two or three days. Indeed, Dr. Lindsay, who has been working as a doctor of the Paraguayan Red Cross and Director of one of the military hospitals, is able to state that, so far as the medical side is concerned, everything is now thoroughly up to date.

WHERE THE INTERNATIONAL FORCE IS PRESERVING ORDER DURING THE PLEBISCITE PERIOD: THE SAAR.



SLAG-HEAPS AND PEACEFUL FIELDS: A CONTRAST NEAR VÖLKLINGEN, SAAR.





ED MINER GETTING COAL FROM A DISUSED WORKING IN THE SAAR.



IN AN AREA WITH A HEAVY METALLURGICAL OUTPUT: STEEL-WORKS AT VÖLKLINGEN

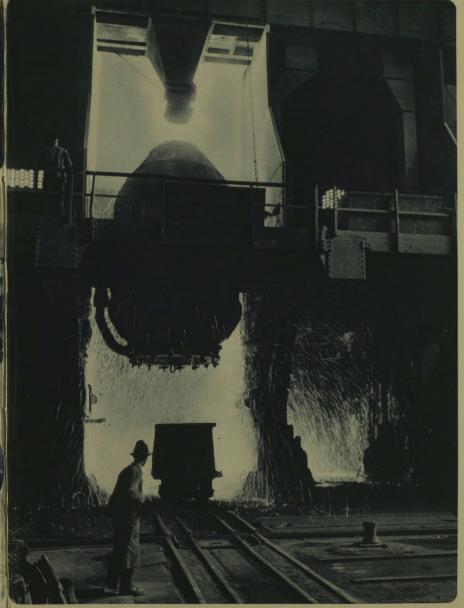


THE CANALISED RIVER WHICH GIVES THE AREA ITS NAME: THE SAAR, NEAR BURBACH. The statement that Britain would provide a contingent for the International Force which is preserving order during the plebiscite period in the Saar, and that a British General would be in command of the force as a whole, at once caused a revival of interest in that territory The decision was preceded by another, equally calculated to ensure peace in that part of Europe. On December 3 there was signed an agreement which closely affects the future of the industrial life of the Saar, illustrated

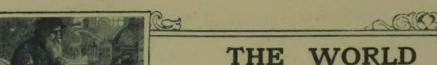
on these pages.. By it, the French and German Ambassadors settled the difficult



IN THE SAAR "BLACK COUNTRY": A MINER'S FAMILY ON THEIR ALLOTMENT. question of the sum to be paid by Germany to France for the Saar mines and all other French State credits, should the voting be in the former's favour. The sum agreed upon was 900,000,000 French francs, or about £12,000,000. It was further understood that the French would be willing to accept 11,000,000 tons of coal in part payment. Another suggestion, however, was that France should have the right to mine coal from the Warndt pits (the entrances to which are on French soil, though the coal lies under the Saar) during the next five years at her own expense.



A SYMBOL OF THE WELL-DEVELOPED HEAVY INDUSTRIES WHICH GIVE THE SAAR AREA ITS GREAT ECONOMIC VALUE: A CONVERTER IN THE STEEL-WORKS AT NEUNKIRCHEN.



SCIENCE.



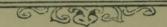
from them, but less potent than parsnip wine. But our countryfolk seem to have lost the art of making

home-made wines, some of which, in my youth, I found very palatable. The "husks" of the nuts

and the roots yield a valuable stain, while the wood, for gun-stocks and furniture, has long been famous.

There is an old adage which, if I remember rightly,

A wife, and a dog, and a walnut tree, The more you beat them, the better they be!



WALNUTS AND WINE.

By W. P. PYCRAFT, F.Z.S., Author of "Camouflage in Nature," "The Courtship of Animals," "Random Gleanings from Nature's Fields," etc.

WHEN I was a little boy we took our "nuts and wine" after a fashion very different from that of our elders. We loved to crack Barcelona nuts and drop them into our glass of raisin wine or, it might be, orange wine, and then fish them out and eat them! But by the time we ourselves have become "elders," our tastes have changed. The memories, however, of those far-off days, and the thrilling hours of Christmas Day, to most of us, probably, are precious memories; and, moreover, I

Gerard's day. But probably dessert, as we know it, had not come into being. And, if this be so, then he and his generation missed much. The soft lights, the blazing fire, the panelled walls, and glistening silver are the all-important accompaniments of that perfect ending to a perfect dinner—a choice collection of hothouse fruit and our native nuts, filberts or walnuts—and walnuts for choice—with a glass of good wine to enable us to express the delicious sense of well-being that the feast has wrought in us!

I cannot believe

that Gerard ever knew the quiet charm of dessert. For he speaks of the walnut rather as a medicine than as a stimulant to the palate. "The the palate. "The greene and tender Nuts," he tells us, "boyled in sugar and eaten as Suckad, are a most pleasant and delectable meat, comfort the stomacke, and expell poison. The oyle of Walnuts made in such manner as oyle of Almonds maketh smooth the hands and face. Milke made of the kernels, as Almond milke is made, cooleth and pleaseth the appetite of the

languishing sicke body. With onions, salt and honey, they are

good against the biting of a mad dog or man, if they be laid upon the wound."

Since Gerard's day we have discovered many other uses for the walnut tree and its "fruit." To begin with, pickled walnuts, a most appetising relish made from the unripe nuts. In France, I believe,



runs-

2. A NORMAL WALNUT OPENED TO SHOW THE WRINKLED KERNEL; AND OTHER WALNUTS WITH ABNORMAL DIVISIONS.

I am not so sure as to the efficacy of this treatment for the first_two subjects, but there seems to be an air of sweet reasonableness in regard to the last. For the walnut flowers are wind-fertilised. to say, they depend on the wind to carry the pollen to the ripe stigmas borne by the female flowers, which

are not, as in the majority of flowering plants, surrounded by the pollen-bearing anthers, these forming separate flower-spikes. As they shed their pollen, it forms little heaps on the covering-plates of the female flowering-spikes.

With every puff of wind some of this pollen With every puff of wind, some of this pollen is dislodged, and is then carried by the wind to the female flower. Should there be a prolonged spell of fine weather, with no wind, but little of this pollen will reach its destination, and the crop will be a poor one. The justificaand the crop will be a poor one. The justification for beating the tree was, I suspect, merely founded on a happy "guess"—it shook the branches and so distributed the pollen. But in the days when wife-beating was in fashion, there were few, if any, who understood the part played by the pollen of flowers.

After this "pollination," in due course we get our walnuts. These, as everybody knows, are enclosed within a fairly thick, smooth rind. But what is the need for the very dense shell of the walnut? And no less puzzling is the

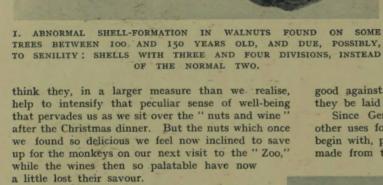
of the walnut? And no less puzzling is the peculiarly wrinkled form of the nut itself.

The explanation of this has yet to be found.

Normally, the woody shell of the walnut

occasionally, the woody shen of the wanter is formed of two basin-shaped portions. Occasionally, however, shells are produced formed of three or even four segments. A number of most interesting specimens of this kind have been sent me by one of my readers—Mr. Franklyn Crallaw—from his trees. These are the products of three trees ranging, it is believed, from 100 to 150 years old. The pro-portion of these freak nuts to the normal type seems to be about one in eighty. Inasmuch as the nuts with four pieces to the shell have shown an increase during the last two years, I should have been inclined to regard this abnormal growth as a sign of senility. But my letter tells me that during the last twenty-five years these freaks have been steadily

decreasing in numbers. I am asked to solve the riddle. But, alas! I have to confess that this task is beyond me. And so I have decided to seek the help of the Royal Horticultural Society. If the authorities there can explain the mystery, I will hand on the information on this page.



The nut of our choice to-day will, I think, be the walnut. More than any other, it seems to go best with wine. How long ago is it since our ancestors discovered the merits of the walnut as a table delicacy? I have a suspicion that it did not gain the reputation it deserves until late mediæval or even Tudor times, when men began to appreciate dainty fare. I may be told that this cannot be, because the walnut was "not introduced into this country till 1592." I have seen that statement in more than one book seen that statement in more than one book claiming to speak with authority. I wonder who first made it, and why? I ask "Why?" for two reasons. In the first place, we find Gerard, in his "Herball," published in 1597, describing the "wall-nut" tree as "a great tree with a thicke and tall body." Unless we have here a repetition of Jack and the Beanstalk, a tree of this description could scarcely come into being in the space of five years! But I shall return to Gerard presently.

If the walnut really was introduced at some period much earlier than 1597, then it was a case of reintroduction, like that of the reintroduction of the capercaillie. Take note of the fact, however, that fossilised leaves of the walnut, together with those of the oak, elm, and willow, are found in the pipe-clay beds of the Isle of Wight, which are of the same age as the "London clay." That is to say, they carry us back to the Eocene epoch, some millions of years ago. What agencies brought about the extermination of the walnut, while the oak and the elm and the willow have remained in undisturbed possession; and when and where was it reintroduced-if

this reintroduction, as a matter of fact, ever took place? Here is another nut to crack over the dessert on Christmas Day! And now let me return to Gerard. I cannot find any account of the nature of the meals taken in



SEASONABLE FRUIT ON THE TREE; WALNUTS AS THEY GROW; ENCLOSED IN THICK GREEN RINDS.

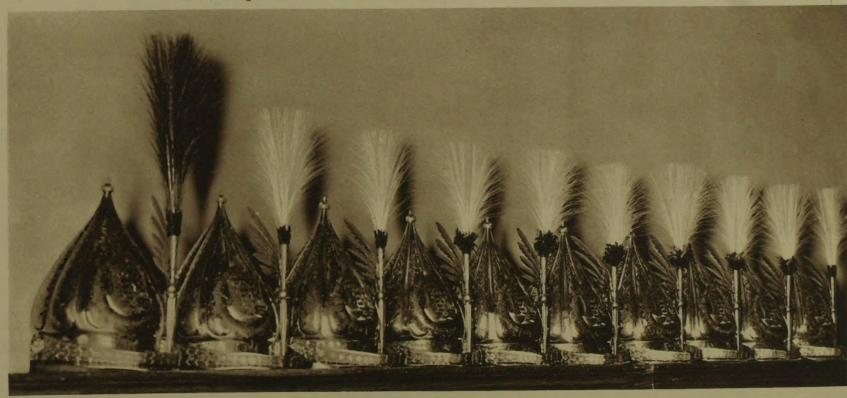
at this stage they are eaten with vinegar, pepper, and shallots; while from the ripe nuts an oil is obtained used by painters as a drying oil. I have been told also that a "pleasant kind of wine" can be made



ROYAL GUARDS WHO NOW SERVE AS THE BODYGUARD OF THE REGENT OF HUNGARY: PRÆTORIANS WHOSE EQUIPMENT INCLUDES SILVER HELMETS, RED SILK TROUSERS, AND GOLD SHOES.

THE Palace Guards of Budapest have watched over the persons of Kings of Hungary for centuries. To-day they guard Admiral Horthy, the Regent, who, as the head of the Kingdom without a King, lives in the Palace—though it is said that he does not use the great apartments, confining himself to a small suite, out of respect for the past. He was elected Regent in 1919, after his victory over the Bolsheviks. His triumphal entry into Budapest was celebrated last November, amid scenes of great enthusiasm. Some 200,000 people gathered on "The Field of Gore" to witness a ceremonial parade commemorating the advent of its liberator to Budapest. When, dressed in Admiral's uniform, and surrounded by generals and members of his suite, he rode, on a white charger, from the royal castle in Buda to the parade field, he was greeted by tumultuous applause. It was the voice of a proud people greeting a worthy





PART OF THE MEDIÆVAL PANOPLY OF THE HUNGARIAN ROYAL GUARDS: SILVER HELMETS, FLUTED AND PLUMED, PHOTOGRAPHED IN THE BODYGUARD'S BARRACKS.

POUCHED ANIMALS OF AUSTRALIA AND TASMANIA: MARSUPIAIS THAT "MATCH" UNRELATED MAMMALS OF OTHER LANDS.



" MOUSE "-EXCEPT FOR THE POUCH AND THE STOUT TAIL, ASTONISHINGLY LIKE THE EUROPEAN



THE TASMANIAN DEVIL: A SAVAGE FIGHTER AND UTTERLY UNTAMABLE, UNLIKE MOST MARSUPIALS—ABOUT THE SIZE AND SHAPE OF A SMALL STOCKY BULL TERRIER.



THE THYLACINE: A MARSUPIAL WHICH PARALLELS THE WOLF, BUT HUNTS ALONE — A HANDSOME NOCTURNAL ANIMAL CONFINED TO TASMANIA,



THE FLYING PHALANGER: A POUCHED REPLICA OF THE FLYING SQUIRREL, ABLE TO SPREAD THE LOOSE SKIN OF THE ABDOMEN AND USE IT AS A SORT OF PRACEGURE WITH WHICH TO SAIL GRACEFULLY THROUGH THE AIR, BUT ONLY IN A DOWNWARD DIRECTION,



THE WOMBAT: THE "WOODCHUCK" OR "BADGER" OF THE MARSUPIALS—A BULKY CREATURE WHICH LIVES IN BURROWS AND CAN DIG RAPIDLY



THE BANDICOOT: A GRACEFUL LITTLE ANIMAL OF WHICH THERE ARE EIGHT OR MORE SPECIES IN AUSTRALIA AND SEVERAL OTHERS IN NEW CUINEA, HAVING A FOUCH THAT OPENS IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION TO THAT OF OTHER MASSIVERIES.

The mammalian fauna of Australia is utterly different from that of any other part of the world. It is remarkable especially for the complete absence of native carnivores of the world. It is remarkable especially for the complete absence of native carnivores (except the diago, almost certainly introduced by aboriginally, and for the abundance of marsupials or pouched animals. The same is largely true of the neighbouring islands of New Cuinca, Tamamia, and New Zealand. Dr. Raymond L. Ditmars, Curator of Mammals and Reptiles at the New York Zoological Society, whose book, "Strange Animals I Have Known," is reviewed overlead, writes in the Society's Bulletin: "The point of most striking interest among the mammals of this area is the development of the marsuplals, large and small, into specialized forms to 'match species of unrelated orders. This remarkable parallelism is carried to such an extent that, despite the absence of other orders of mammals, the Australian marsuplals present a versatility of form to amply take their place. Thus the kangaroos and wallables take the place of deer and natelops on the plains; the phalagers are like squirreds in the forests; some even having developed scaling planes like the flying aquirreds. The wombat is like a big woodshoule, even to the broadening of inteser teeth for cutting; there are marsupial 'rats and mice,' a pouched 'wolf,' marsupial



A BLACK SWAMP-WALLABY, WITH YOUNG IN HER POUCH: ONE OF SOME SIXTY MEMBERS OF THE WALLABY FAMILY, WHICH TAKE THE FLACE OF DEER AND ANTELOPES ON THE AUSTRALIAN FLAINS.



A KOALA: THE "TEDDY BEAR" OF AUSTRALIA, WHICH HAS AN APPEALING, CHILD-LIKE EXPRESSION AND IS AS INOFFENSIVE AS IT LOOKS—A MARSUPIAL "WHOSE FACE IS ITS FORUTHE."

'cats' and 'weasels,' the masquerade having radiated to the extent of varied forms to include those like moles and ant-eaters to parallel insectivores and edentates." Several examples of this phenomenon are illustrated by the accompanying photographs, all of which (except those of koalas) were taken in the New York Zoological Gardens. Dormouse, wolf, squirrel, woodchuck, and bear are shown to be particularly well matched in marsupial form. Further details concerning several of the creatures illustrated may be added. The Taxmanian devil is appropriately named, its vicious character being in marked contrast with the gentle disposition of most marsupials.



THE PHALANGER, CALLED IN AUSTRALIA THE OPOSSUM: A SQUIRREL-LIKE MARSUPIAL WITH A PREHENSILE TAIL AND A DELICATE GREY FUR WHICH MAKES IT A PRIZE FOR THE PELT HUNTER.



AN ALBINISTIC PHASE OF THE KOALA, WITH HER YOUNG "JOEY" ON HER BACK ("JOEY" BEING THE COMMON AUSTRALIAN NAME FOR THE YOUNG OF THE KOALA): A CLUMSILY BUILT CLIMBER .- [Photograph by Mr. Charles M. Barrett.]

In combat it is more dreaded by dogs than the wolf-like thylacine, for, in comparison with its size, the crushing force of its jaws is astonishing. The thylacine, like the devil peculiar to Taxmania, is sometimes called a tiger or a zebra, from the sixteen transverse black bars across its back. The largest of the carnivorous marupials, it measures, when fully grown, nearly five feet from nose to tail-tip, and has a long muzzle and powerful jaws. It is nocturnal in habit and blinks like a distressed owl in the glare of the sunlight. The pouch easily accommodates the four young which is the number at birth. The koala's voice is a hoarse grating call.



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BEING AN APPRECIATION OF

"STRANGE ANIMALS I HAVE KNOWN": By RAYMOND L. DITMARS.*

(PUBLISHED BY JOHN LANE.)

IN the opening sentences of this breezy and interesting book, Dr. Ditmars leaves no doubt of his special qualification for writing under the title which he has chosen. "For over a quarter of a century, it has been my task to capture, transport, feed, nurse, soothe, fight, guard and cajole various specimens of the animal kingdom. I have been on intimate terms with snakes, bears, apes.

THE HAND-PRINT OF A FOUR-YEAR-OLD ORANG-UTAN; WITH A THUMB-PRINT SO LIKE THAT OF A HUMAN BEING AS TO PUZZLE EXPERTS AT THE NEW YORK POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Dr. Ditmars writes: "The skin textures, or parallel lines, are finer than upon the human hand except upon the finger-tips. A roll thumb-print of this animal, compared with one of a human, puzzled experts at the New York Police Department in distinguishing which was human or ape."

monkeys, elephants, jaguars, tigers, buffaloes, giraffes, deer, kudus, hippos, wild horses, kiangs, rhinos, lions, cougars, leopards, kangaroos, beasts of almost every sort and many other species."

It all began with snakes. Dr. Ditmars at an early age

cougars, leopards, kangaroos, beasts of almost every sort and many other species."

It all began with snakes. Dr. Ditmars at an early age developed a passion for reptiles, which led, through an intermediate stage of journalism, to official responsibility for the reptile section of the newly founded New York Zoological Park. He at once demonstrated his enthusiasm for the post by going down to the swamps of Savannah and supplying the institution with "five hundred pounds of reptiles"! To-day Dr. Ditmars is Curator of the Zoological Park, one of the finest and most comprehensive in the world. The enlargement of his responsibilities, however, has not damped his ardour for snakes, but his continued association with them has had more than a zoological significance. He has probably been more active than any other living man in supplying antitoxin serum for snake-bite of many different kinds. The serum is derived from horses which are gradually inoculated with increasing doses of snake-venom. The method of obtaining the poison is as follows: "A serpent was lifted from its glass-fronted case on the end of the bent wire, or, if very large and heavy, on the pole with the blunt hook. It clung to this by a loop of its body to keep from falling, Next it was placed on the table, where it coiled to strike. Usually I manœuvred quickly to press its head down with my stick, reach forward and grasp it by the neck. It had to be firmly grasped by the thumb and forefinger immediately behind the angle of its jaw bones, or the outlines of the head. . . With the serpent safely grasped in one hand and its body supported in the other, I was ready to extract its poison by allowing it to bite through a sheet of parchment tied over the mouth of the glass. The fangs were always driven through by a flashing close of the jaws. Contraction of the muscles operating the jaws squeezed the poison glands, forcing venom forward and through the hollow fangs. A jet of poison instantly flew from the tip of each hypodernic tooth. To obtain quite a bit mor

• "Strange Animals I Have Known." By Dr. Raymond L. Ditmars, Curator, New York Zoological Park. Illustrated. (John Lane, The Bodley Head; 8s. 6d.)

great and subtle dangers from proximity to the extracted venom; some of it, for example, gives off a kind of smoke, or exhalation, which, if breathed, produces distressing and even dangerous symptoms. Large quantities are required, in order that the poison may be dried to powder, for it will not keep in liquid form. It is nothing to Dr. Ditmars to prepare and deliver a gallon of this strangest and most inexplicable poison in nature, stuff of which no chemical analysis can disengage and define the deadly quality. It is estimated that the devoted work which has been done in the investigation and production of serum has resulted in saving, in a period of twenty years, "approximately a quarter of a million lives throughout the world, as well as a large number of valuable domestic animals."

With snakes Dr. Ditmars has dealt, without mishap, for twenty-five years, though, curiously enough, he does not claim to be one of those unusual mortals—they undoubtedly exist—with a mysterious command over reptiles and insects. Other creatures are not always so easy to deal with as cobras and rattlesnakes, and the complications in the domestic life of a "Zoo"—and of its Curator—are of inexhaustible variety. We all remember Little Willie and his monkey "climbing on a yellow stick," and how he met a sad end by sucking the paint off. It appears that giraffes have this indiscreet habit, which has seemed to be at peace with all men, suddenly turns homicidal: or perhaps all the elephants, with one accord, go on hunger-strike, because of some new and unpopular flavour in the hay. An elk takes to wifebeating, or a young elephant, who has come to pay an informal call at the Curator's office, wedges himself in the door! And these are but trifles by comparison with incidents of

formal call at the Curator's office, wedges himself in the door! And these are but trifles by comparison with incidents of travel, by sea and land, when one is in charge, as Dr. Ditmars has frequently been, of large consignments of miscellaneous wild creatures. The escape of a python on board ship is not welcomed by the passengers as a new feature of the decksports; nor is a master mariner altogether pleased when a couple of monkeys rush to the bridge, scamper through the chart-room, and swarm up a mast. What,

scamper through the chart-room, upon and swarm up a mast. What, this again, is the etiquette of the York situation when an orang-utan, with more than average armlength, has possessed himself of a carving-knife while a passenger on a train, and is maintaining a fortified zone all round his crate? Not only in his own curatorial duties, but in the field, in the course of buying specimens from dealers in different parts of the world, and during the filming of animals, Dr. Ditmars has had many lively and sometimes highly dangerous experiences, all of which he relates with an animation to

a hazard at every hole in the shape of serpents, wild bulls spiders, ants, or marabundi wasps, "which will chase a person a mile" (thus conducing, we should conjecture, to pressing). The Rio "Zoo" is also not without its hazards. During a visit, which was accompanied by ladies, Dr. Ditmars and his party were invited by the Director to shelter from a tropical downpour in a little thatched house. It turned out to be the abode of a collection of anacondas, and the visitors were entertained by a discourse on these giant serpents, with practical illustrations all round them. "My wife and I didn't mind, but the rest of the party probably figured that Daniel's Biblical experience with the lions had nothing on them. Daniel had only a few lions, and the Lord looked after him. Furthermore, he was a saint. We were not saints. What kind of an ending would there be for us among various serpents festooning the shelves like dry goods?"

There is scarcely a creature, great or small, of which Dr. Ditmars has not something fresh and interesting to tell us. Monkeys of many kinds have engaged his particular attention, and, although he records remarkable examples of their intelligence, long acquaintance with the species has impressed him with its unlikeness, rather than with its similarity, to man. It is a surprise to learn that the chimpanzee, so "human" in its early years, is ferociously irreconcilable to man when it has reached maturity. Dr. Ditmars' zoological acquaintance is not confined to animals in capitivity; he confesses a "passion for the jungle and its denizens," and has made some adventurous excursions into the wilds of Central America. Here, he tells us, the only real perils from beasts of prey are an occasional "bad" jaguar and a travelling group of peccaries; "all things considered, in figuring the 'dangers' of the tropics, I would first check my supplies



A TORTOISE BROKEN IN TO "DRIVE," AND PREPARED TO FOLLOW THE APPLE, EITHER STRAIGHT OR ROUND CORNERS, UNTIL HE GETS IT.

Further photographs of interesting animals in the collections of the New York Zoological Society, where Dr. Ditmars is Curator of Mammals and Reptiles, are given on the two preceding pages.

Reproductions by Courtesy of John Lane, The Bodley Head, Publishers of "Strange Animals
I Have Known."

THE AMERICAN BEAVER—SUPPOSED TO INDICATE THE SEVERITY OF THE COMING WINTER BY THE AMOUNT OF FOOD IT STORES UP IN THE AUTUMN.

Like the woodchuck, the beaver is alleged to be a long-range weather prophet. But Dr. Ditmars says: "Year after year I have patiently watched for evidence that would indicate some creature's sensitiveness to coming change of season. To-day I am convinced there is nothing to such a belief."

which his early journalistic training has substantially contributed. We are inclined to think that, of all the wild places which he mentions, a golf course at Rio de Janeiro is the most formidable, for here there seems to be

of mosquito dope and provisions of protection against noxious insects. Here is a real danger, both from disease and from near torture." It is well to be able to look upon jungle life with the detached interest of the scientist, for to the lay observer its abundance gives an impression of nightmare. The bird life alone is astonishing in its pullulation. "Flocks of white egrets and roseate spoonbills flew ahead of us. The latter are coral pink with broad bill expanding at the end as wide as a tablespoon. Big herons waded knee-deep, their dagger-like bills ready to dart for fish. Sharing the dead trees with the iguanas were spectral snake-necked birds and cormorants. The former are unpleasant-looking things of dingy blackish feathers, with excessively long, writhing necks. There were as many as two dozen in a tree — and there were dozens of dead trees. Some of these birds were diving like seals, going under the water for fish and coming up quite a distance away. . . . The beds of water lettuce were the parading grounds of flocks of handsome birds, the size of starlings, hunting for aquatic insects. Wandering among them were long-legged birds with incongruously big feet adapted for strolling over the pad-like leaves. A large hawk watched this gathering from a dead tree with a single, horizontal arm. He appeared out of place, sinister and motionless as bronze."

Dr. Ditmars ends with a chapter on "The Fight for Life"—which theme is, indeed, an undertone throughout all his pages; for it is impossible to book of this kind without being forcibly reminded of relasting paradox of nature—the fierce perpetuation on the one hand, and its even fiercer destruction

the everlasting paradox of nature—the fierce perpetuation of life on the one hand, and its even fiercer destruction on the other. C. K. A.

GERMANY'S TREATMENT OF HER VETERAN WAR-HORSES: EQUINE "PENSIONERS" AT THE SPANDAU ASYLUM.



A GERMAN EQUINE VETERAN WHICH IS SPENDING AN HONOURABLE OLD AGE IN THE ASYLUM AT SPANDAU; SIEGFRIED ENJOYING A GALLOP.



HORSES THAT TOOK PART IN THE WAR STILL ACTIVE IN THE SERVICE OF THE GERMAN REICHSWEHR. SIEGFRIED AND RICHTSCHÜTZE, AGED 23 AND 24, PULLING THEIR WEIGHT IN AN ARMY WAGGON.



OLD SOLDIERS' TALES?—SCHLAGER (BORN 1911), TANNHAUSER (BORN 1912), SIEGFRIED (BORN 1911), URSEL (BORN 1913), RICHTSCHÜTZE (BORN 1910), AND ULK (BORN 1913; LEFT TO RIGHT), SIX VETERAN PENSIONERS OF THE GERMAN REICHSWEHR.

WHILE AGO we devoted two pages to illustrating and describing the twenty-four veteran war-horses which paraded in London at the International Horse Show at Olympia. Here are seen some German veteran war-horses that have also found kind friends and an honourable retirement. The correspondent who sends us the photographs notes: "In the barracks of the Ninth Infantry Regiment in the Spandau district of Berlin, an asylum has been opened for aged war-horses. There are six horses that have already reached ages from 21 to 24 years (equivalent to some 90 years of the





A WILLING PARTICIPATOR IN EQUESTRIAN TRICKS, IN SPITE OF HIS 23 YEARS: SIEGFRIED, ONE OF THE VETERAN WAR-HORSES AT SPANDAU.

human span 1). But they are still good workers, notwithstanding all the troubles and toils of their past. They continue to draw heavy waggons, and remain obedient to the rider on their backs. Indeed, not a few of them do their job just as heartily as any inexperienced youngster in the stables."

DISCOVERIES AT TEPE GAWRA: ART RELICS OF EARLY MESOPOTAMIA.

BY CHARLES BACHE, FIELD-DIRECTOR OF THE JOINT EXPEDITION OF THE PENNSYLVANIA UNIVERSITY MUSEum and THE AMERICAN Schools OF ORIENTAL RESEARCH. (SEE ALSO THE OPPOSITE PAGE.)





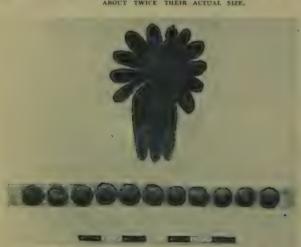
A STONE DISH FROM THE "RICH GRAVE," DELICATELY
CARVED IN GREEN STEATURE, THIN, HIGHLY POLISHED,
AND TRANSLUCENT: AN EXCEDINGLY FINE EXAMPLE
OF STONE WORK, APPARENTLY BROKEN DELIBERATELY
WHEN BURIED. (RESTORED FROM THE FRAGMENTS.)



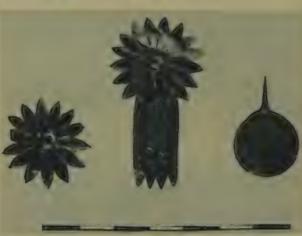


MINIATURE VESSELS CARVED IN STONE, FOUND AT TEPE GAWRA: (ON THE LEFT) A BOWL OF MINUTE SIZE WADE OF COLITE; (ON THE RIGHT) A TINY VASE CARVED IN ALABASTER --- BOTH OBJECTS HERE SHOWN ABOUT TWICE THEIR ACTUAL SIZE.



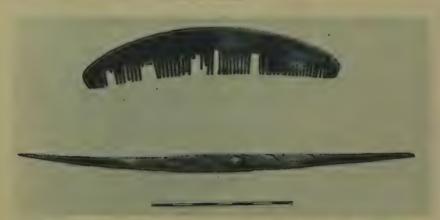


A POSETTE AND HOLLOW STUDS OF THIN BEATEN GOLD: THE STUDS HERE SHOWN HILLED WITH BITUMEN AND AFFIXED TO CLOTH WHILE THE BITUMEN WAS HOT, IN THE ORIGINAL MANNER.



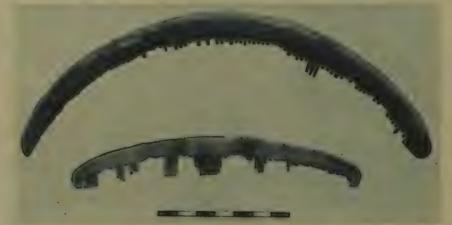
COLD ORNAMENTS FROM A TOMB IN STRATUM IX.: (CENTRE AND LEFT)
ROSETTES—ONE WITH A "RIBBON" STAMPED WITH HERRING-BONE
DESIGN; (RIGHT) AN EAR-PENDANT OF PLAIN GOLD.





A FAMILIAR TOILET ARTICLE UNCHANGED THROUGH THE AGES: A BONE COMB SEVERAL THOUSAND YEARS OLD, BUT LOOKING QUITE MODERN; AND AN ELEGANT HAIR-ORNAMENT ADORNED WITH GOLD BANDS AND DIAMOND-SHAPED INLAYS OF TURQUOISE AND LAPIS-LAZULI.

"Tepe Gawra [writes Mr. Charles Bache] is about fourteen miles north of Mosul, Tepe Gawra [writes Mr. Charles Bache] is about fourteen miles north of Mosul, and is slightly under two miles east of Khorsabad, the site of Sargon's palace. It was discovered (archæologically) by Professor E. A. Speiser, of the University of Pennsylvania, in the winter of 1926-27, while he was surveying the region for Dropsie College, Philadelphia. Its importance was immediately recognised, and Professor Speiser conducted a short campaign there in the fall of 1927. A trial exploratory trench was dug in the east slope of the mound, and such significant discoveries were made that the American Schools of Oriental Research and the



BONE COMBS (FOR ORNAMENT AND USE RESPECTIVELY) EARLIER THAN 2900 B.C.; FURTHER EVIDENCE THAT THE ANCIENT INHABITANTS OF TEPE GAWRA SET GREAT STORE BY THEIR HAIR, AS INDICATED BY THE MAJORITY OF THE OBJECTS FOUND IN THE TOMBS.

University Museum of Philadelphia joined in an expedition to excavate the mound completely. Particulars of the original discovery and the trial excavation appeared in the Annual of the American Schools, Vols. VIII. (1928) and IX. (1929). Four campaigns have since been conducted, the first two under Professor Speiser, as recorded in the Bulletins of both the sponsoring institutions. The present brief report concerns itself only with results of the third campaign, ended in April 1933. Tepe Gawra was occupied from Neolithic times until the middle of the second millennium B.C., the last occupation being Hurrian. The strata [Continued opposite.]

TEPE GAWRA: TEMPLE AND TOMBS; A PARALLEL WITH CYPRUS POTTERY.

By Charles Bache, Field-Director of the Joint Expedition of the Pennsylvania University Museum and the American Schools of Oriental Research. (See also the Opposite Page.)



A PODIUM IN THE CENTRAL CHAMBER OF A TEMPLE FOUND IN STRATUM IX.: A STRUCTURE DOUBTLESS SACRIFICIAL, AS THE CENTRE WAS HEAVILY FIRE-MARKED WHILE THE REST OF THE ROOM WAS NOT—THE PART ENCLOSED BY A DARK LINE SLIGHTLY DEPRESSED.



ARCHITECTURE OF THE PRE-DYNASTIC PERIOD AT TEPE GAWRA: THE TEMPLE IN STRATUM IX.—A PHOTOGRAPH THAT SHOWS BONDING IN THE WALL AT THE OUTSIDE CORNER OF THE SOUTH-EAST FRONT ROOM, AND ONE SIDE OF ONE OF THE NICHES.



TEPE GAWRA FROM THE NORTH-WEST: THE MOUND (ORIGINALLY A STEEP CONE, ALMOST POINTED) EXCAVATED DOWN TO THE BEGINNING OF STRATUM IX., BY REMOVING ABOUT 32 FT. (DEPTH) OF SOIL FROM THE TOP, LEAVING A DEPTH OF 45 FT. TO THE BASE.



A UNIQUE BOWL WITH A PLASTIC GROUP OF SHEEP AND (ORIGINALLY) A SHEPHERD (BROKEN OFF IN CENTRE): AN ARTISTIC PARALLEL TO A PLASTIC SCENE OF SNAKE-WORSHIP, 1000 YEARS LATER, FOUND IN CYPRUS. (SEE "THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS" OF DECEMBER 10, 1932.)



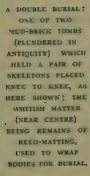
A TOMB (INTRUSIVE FROM THE NEXT STRATUM ABOVE) FOUND IN STRATUM IX.: ONE OF ABOUT TEN BUILT OF LIBN (SUN-DRIED MUD-BRICK) AND PLUNDERED IN ANTIQUITY, THOUGH TWO FOUND INTACT CONTAINED RICH FURNISHINGS OF HIGH ARTISTIC QUALITY.

Continued.]

Continued.]

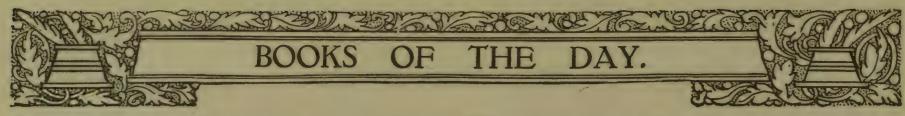
Continued.]

Excavated in this campaign were the IXth and Xth from the top. Stratum VI., which is the earliest whose date can be stated with any certainty, was occupied in the Early Dynastic Period (2900-2500 B.C.). (See H. Frankfort's 'Archæology and the Sumerian Problem'—Chicago, 1932.) Stratum VIII., consisting of three phases, lay some four metres below Stratum VI. Strata IX. and X. are definitely linked by architectural and archæological evidence with Stratum VIIIc, the earliest phase of VIII, and lie just below. Tentatively, they may be assigned to the Jemdet-Nasr period of early Mesopotamian civilisation, the last pre-Dynastic





culture. Differences between the cultures of Northern and Southern Mesopotamia make this identification difficult. I believe that further study and correlation will prove it correct, although it will be 'assignment to' rather than 'identification with' this period." Regarding the bowl (shown above) with plastic figures of sheep, a note states: "The nearest parallel to this object was found at Vounous, Cyprus, and published in 'The Illustrated London News' for December 10, 1932, but is some 1000 years later in date and quite different both in subject-matter and technique." The Cyprus group represents a snake-worship ceremony.



MY "books of the day" on this festive occasion are books of Christmas Day; that is, of the kind known as illustrated gift-books, and they come, not in single spies, but in battalions. To be exact, the total number so far reposing on my table, and on adjacent pieces of furniture, is sixty-six. Consequently, I cannot enlarge much on their individual merits.

Roughly, they fall into two categories—books for the young and for the not so young. I adopt the principle of seniores priores. The

young and for the not of seniores priores. The old de luxe type of giftbook seems to be fading out, but I have one example that outsoars the rest for beauty of format, colour plates, and drawings—"A Book and drawings—"A BOOK OF OLD BALLADS." Selected and with an Introduction by Beverley Nichols, and illustrated by H. M. Brock, R.I. (Hutchinson; 9s. 6d.). A charming volume this, and chean at the price A charming volume one, and cheap at the price. Three of the ballads are not so old—"Tipperary," Kipling's "Mandalay," and Oscar Wilde's "Ballad of Reading Gaol."

Delightful pencil drawings of children, with some farmyard and circus scenes, illustrate "People of Importance." By the author of "Important People" —J. H. Dowd; Brenda E. Spender (Country Life, Ltd.; 10s. 6d.). The letterpress, I-think, appeals rather to lovers appeals rather to lovers of childhood than to children themselves. For those who remember that Christmas has that Christmas has something to do with Christianity, an acceptable gift would be the new illustrated edition of "Mary Magdalen." By Edith Olivier (Peter Davies; 8s. 6d.). For a theatre-goer nothing could be more appropriate than "Christmas Pantomime." The Story of an English Institution.

PANTOMIME." The Story
of an English Institution.

By A. E. Wilson. With thirty-four Illustrations (George Allen and Unwin; 10s. 6d.). Mr. Wilson is a well-known dramatic critic and an authority on toy theatres (witness his "Penny Plain, Twopence Coloured"). He acknowledges help, among others, from the late Mr. Julian Wylie. For an "arty" friend a fitting choice would be "The Italian Renaissance." Edited by A. K. Wickham, F.S.A.; and for a geographically-minded person, "The Polar Regions." Edited by J. M. Scott (Chatto and Windus; 5s. each)—new volumes in the Life and Art in Photograph series. North Country folk will enjoy "Lapwings and Laverocks." Character Sketches from the Yorkshire Dales. By Dorothy Una Ratcliffe. Illustrated by Fred Lawson (Country Life, Ltd.; 10s. 6d.). Two other exquisite books of locality, companions in aspect, are "The Heart of Scotland." By George Blake. With Foreword by Eric Linklater, Drawings by Brian Cook, and 120 Photographs; and "English Villages and Hamlets." By Humphrey Pakington. With Foreword by E. V. Knox, Drawings by Sydney R. Jones, and over 130 Photographs (Batsford; 7s. 6d. each).

Pictorial humour for grown-ups, and growing-ups, is well represented in a batch of mirth-provoking tomes of album size—"Fun Fair." By Fougasse (Hutchinson; 9s. 6d.); "Considered Triffles." By H. M. Bateman (Hutchinson; 6s.); "Line and Laughter." By Ridgewell (Methuen; 5s.); and "The Story of Edward." By John Weir (Methuen; 7s. 6d.). The author of this last, a son of Lord Weir, is associated with broadcasting, film production, and revue. A beguiling little skit on modern commercial methods is "How To Run a Bassoon Factory," or Business Explained. By Mark Spade (Hamish Hamilton; 3s. 6d.). (Hamish Hamilton; 3s. 6d.).

For hunting folk I can recommend a trio of books which are bound to be appreciated. A well-known sporting artist, whose work is familiar to our readers, has done some of his best horsey drawings for "Thoroughbred and Hunter." Their Breeding, Training and Management. By William Fawcett. Illustrated by Lionel Edwards, R.I. Introduction by Sir Alfred Pease, Bt. (Eyre and Spottiswoode; 25s.). Victorians in pursuit of "Charles James" are richly shrined, by pen and pencil, in "Hunting Sketches." By Anthony Trollope. With

Introduction by James Boyd, M.F.H., and Drawings by Robert Ball (Hutchinson; 15s.). The literature of sport, from Xenophon and Virgil to Surtees and Sassoon, has been ransacked for lively extracts, in prose and verse, to form "A Fox-Hunter's Anthology." Compiled by Peter Lewis. Illustrated (Lovat Dickson; 15s.).

In the junior division of Christmas gift-books, the gold cup and championship must be awarded, alike for bulk and beauty and for originality in a romantic tale and

pictures, to "THE WHITE DRAGON." Written and Illustrated by Logi Southby (Rich and Cowan; 21S.). Equally pre-eminent in another vein—that of whimsical fun—is "THE STORY OF BABAR," the Little Elephant. By Jean de Brunhoff. With Preface by A. A. Milne Methuen; 78. 6d.). This convincing narrative pictures, to "THE WHITE DRAGON." Written and French original) has large and amusing colour pictures by the author.

books (both for seniors and juniors) about all and juniors) about all sorts of animals is headed by one which is, to my mind, the gem of the whole Christmas caboodle—"Collected Dog Stories." By Rudyard Kipling. Illustrated by G. L. Stampa (Macmillan; 7s. 6d.). I would rather have this little sheaf of tales by a master hand, admirably served by his illustrator, than all the colour-plates in London. A quarto volume sure quarto volume sure a welcome is "An ARTIST AT THE ZOO."
Drawings and Text by
Bertha Bennet Burleigh (Collins; ros. 6d.). The author - artist is a daughter of the famous war correspondent, and herself had some amazing adventures in the Great War. Her animal por-traiture is first-rate in quality and power.

she published "Horsemanship As It Is To-day," which drew a word of praise from Lord Lonsdale. Two other noteworthy tales of equine adventure are "Zong": A Hill Pony. By M. E. Buckingham. Illustrated by K. F. Barker (Country Life, Ltd.; 7s. 6d.); and "Doney." A Borderland Tale of Ponies and Young People. By Primrose Cumming. Foreword by Sheila Kaye-Smith. With Drawings by Allen W. Seaby (Country Life, Ltd.; 10s. 6d.). The "borderland" here is not the Scottish one, but that between Kent and Sussex, and there are some good drawings of the landscape. Horses, military or sporting, are the main source of inspiration to a soldier-poet in "Hoof Marks," and Other Impressions. By Major Orr Ewing. With Foreword by General Sir Hubert Gough and Sketches by Capt. G. H. S. Dixon (Witherby; 8s. 6d.). I go to the dogs again for a moment in five charming Australian stories embodied in "'Winks His Book." By Dorothy Cottrell. Illustrated by J. Nicolson and Paul Bransom (Jarrolds; 3s. 6d.), and then turn from canine to feline literature in "Ponsonby and His Friends." A True Story About Cats. By Agnes Grozier Herbertson. Illustrated by Elleen A. Soper (Methuen; 5s.). This book won first prize in a competition for stories for children. Puss portraiture by the camera is ideally exemplified in "Mike the Cat." Text and Photographs by Creighton Peet (Methuen; 5s.), and "Big Cats and Little Cats." Forty-eight Photographic Studies by Hedda Walther. Introduction by Maurice Richardson (Routledge; 3s. 6d.), Not "milk for babes," but "strong meat" for the naturalist, is "Laikan." The Story of a Salmon. By Joseph Wenter. Translated from the German by Charles Ashleigh. Foreword by Major J. S. Egerton (Rich and Cowan; 6s.). This tale has kinship, possibly derivative, with "Tarka the Otter," whose author has now written another delightful book—"The Linhay on the Downs." By Henry Williamson (Cape; 7s. 6d.). Williamson (Cape; 7s. 6d.).

Improving books for the young are still with us. Some seek to inculcate a taste for good literature; others to stir interest in public affairs or impart general knowledge. Of the former class the liveliest example is "A Christmas Holiday Book." Chosen by Alice Daglish and Ernest Rhys. Illustrated by Mary Shillabeer (Dent; 7s. 6d.). The authors here represented include Dickens, Stevenson, Tennyson, and Shakespeare. A co-operative modern counterpart to Lamb's Tales is "Six Stories from Shakespeare." Retold by John Buchan, Hugh Walpole, Clemence Dane, Francis Brett Young, the Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill, and Viscount Snowden. Illustrated by Fortunino Matania (Newnes; 7s. 6d.). There could be no more seductive stepping-stone to Browning than "The Pied Piper." Story and Illustrations by the Staff of the Walt Disney Studios (Lane; 2s. 6d.).

Several more books in this genre come from Messrs.
Raphael Tuck, pictured in their familiar style, namely,
"Stories from Dickens" for Boys and Girls, Told
by his Grand-daughter and Others. Illustrated by
Harold Copping (2s. 6d.); "King Arthur's Noble
Knights." By Doris Ashley. Illustrated by Arthur
Dixon (1s. 6d.); "Wondrous Deeds of Bygone Days."

By M. Dorothy Belgrave
and Hilda Hart. Illustrated by H. G. Theaker
(3s. 6d.); and "St.
George and the
Dragon," and Other
Legends of the Seven
Champions of Christendom (1s.).

dom (1s.).

To the informative type of juvenilia belong an excellent book about modern life and events—"News for Children." By Commander Stephen King-Hall (Ivor Nicholson; 5s.), and "A Box of Dates for Children." With Explanatory Notes for their Parents. By Geoffrey Moss. Illustrated by Eric M. Simon (Cobden-Sanderson; 5s.). The text is in verse. (Cobden-Sanderson; 5s.). The text is in verse. Of instructive intent also are "Peter in the Post Office." By Richard F. Robinson. Drawn by Tom Seton (Lane; 1s. 6d.); and "By Road, Rail, Sea and Air." Illustrated by Barnard Way (Raphael Tuck; 1s. 6d.).



OF THE WEEK AT THE VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM (DECEMBER 20-26): A MAJOLICA PANEL DATING FROM THE LAST YEARS OF THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY.

This devotional panel is a typical example of Italian majolica-painting of the last years of the fifteenth century. It shows the influence of the Florentine school, but there are technical reasons for attributing it to a workshop at Faenza (the great centre of the potter's craft), which gave its name in several languages to the type of earthenware, characterised by an opaque glaze or enamel containing oxide of tin, otherwise known as majolica. The firm but delicate drawing, in ceramic pigments which remain with brilliance unimpaired as they were when they were fired, entitles the panel to serious attention as a minor work of one of the greatest periods in the history of European art.

By Courtesy of the Victoria and Albert Museum. (Crown Copyright Reserved.)



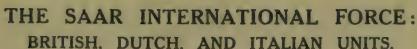
HIDDEN FROM GENERAL VIEW FOR OVER A HUNDRED YEARS, AND NOW ON EXHIBITION IN LONDON: JAMES WARD'S "RALPH JOHN LAMBTON ON 'UNDERTAKER'."

This picture, which is now to be seen in the galleries of Messrs. Ellis and Smith, was begun in 1819, and was finished in the following year, when it was shown at the Royal Academy. Then it disappeared from general view—save in the form of Charles Turner's engraving of it, made in 1821. Ralph John Lambton was a great-uncle of the "Red Boy"—Master Lambton—of Lawrence's famous portrait. On his retirement, his foxhounds, shown with him, were bought by Lord Suffield for three thousand guineas, then a record price. Penshaw Hill, Durham, is seen in the distance.

Reproduction by Courtesy of Messrs. Ellis and Smith, Grafton Street, New Bond Street, W.I.

Though ousted from the road of late years by its mechanical rival, the motor-car, that noble beast, the horse, maintains its popularity in print. On my list of animal books, at least, it claims the largest number of entries. A remarkable work by a girl of fourteen, a second cousin to the Duchess of York, is "HARUM SCARUM." The Life Story of a Horse. By Sarah Bowes-Lyon. Illustrated by the Author in Colour and Line (Dent; 7s. 6d.). Even this is not Miss Bowes-Lyon's first book, for when only twelve

I am simply snowed under with story-books for the nursery shelf. One specially alluring batch descends on me from Mr. Basil Blackwell, of Oxford, whose "juveniles" always have a note of distinction. They comprise "Polly Who Did As She Was Told." By Margaret Baker. Pictures (masterly and deliciously amusing silhouettes) by Mary Baker (3s. 6d.); "Jim at the Corner." And Other Stories. By Eleanor Farjeon. Pictures by Irene Mountfort (5s.); "Widdy-Widdy-Wurkey." Nursery [Continued on page 1072.





SENT TO ARRANGE QUARTERS FOR THE CONTINGENT.

BRITISH FORCES CROSS THE CHANNEL ON A PEACEFUL MISSION: THE VESSEL "HAMPTON FERRY" ARRIVING AT CALAIS WITH AN R.A.S.C. DETACHMENT ON BOARD—AN ADVANCE PARTY OF OUR CONTINGENT FOR THE SAAR PLEBISCITE PERIOD.



THE SUPERVISING COMMITTEE FOR THE SAAR PLEBISCITE: (L. TO R.) M. RODE (SWEDEN) MRS. WAMBAUGH (UNITED STATES), TECHNICAL ADVISER; M. HENRY (SWITZERLAND), PRESIDENT; M. DE JONGH (NETHERLANDS); AND M. HELLSTEDT (SWEDEN), SECRETARY-GENERAL.



PART OF THE ITALIA: TINGENT (OF THE SAAR NATIONAL FORCE) UNDER THE COMMAND OF BRIG. GENERAL VISCONTI PRASCA: CARABINIERI PARADED IN ROME BEFORE THEIR DEPARTURE FOR SAARBRÜCKEN.



THE NETHERLANDS CONTINGENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL FORCE TO BE QUARTERED IN SAARBRÜCKEN TO KEEP ORDER DURING THE PLEBISCITE: A BODY OF DUTCH MARINES DRILLING AT ROTTERDAM IN PREPARATION FOR DUTY IN THE SAAR.



THE BRITISH GENERAL TO COMMAND THE INTERNATIONAL FORCE IN THE SAAR: MAJOR-GENERAL J. E. S. BRIND, C.B., D.S.O. (FORMERLY DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF IN INDIA).

The International Force, approved by the League of Nations, for preserving order The International Force, approved by the League of Nations, for preserving order in the Saar before, during, and after the Plebiscite of January 13, is composed of 1500 British, 1300 Italians, 260 Swedish, and 250 Dutch troops. The force, which has no connection with the Saar Police Force (also under the authority of the Saar Governing Commission) is commanded by Major-General J. E. S. Brind. He served in the South African War, and during the Great War held staff appointments. The British contingent will consist of the 13th Infantry Brigade, 1st Battalion East Lancashire Regiment, and 1st Battalion Essex Regiment, with detachments of

other arms and services. The Italian contingent will comprise two battalions of other arms and services. The Italian contingent will comprise two battalions of Grenadiers and one of Carabinieri. Holland is sending a body of Marines. The Swedish contingent, due to reach Saarbrücken on the 22nd, is being recruited from volunteers, as the constitution forbids sending conscripts abroad without the sanction of the Riksdag, which is not now sitting. The British contingent will be self-supporting, and 600 tons of supplies have been shipped. The first British soldier seen in Saarbrücken attracted much public interest. Detachments of the R.A.S.C. and vehicles for the Royal Engineers and Corps of Signals have crossed to Calais.

THE HIGH BUILDING MENACE TO VIEWS OF ST. PAUL'S: DIRE COMPARISONS.



ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL AS IT IS VISIBLE AT PRESENT FROM THE NORTH END OF THE TEMPORARY WATERLOO BRIDGE: A VIEW SHOWING PART OF THE EMBANKMENT, TEMPLE AVENUE, AND BUILDINGS BEYOND BLACKFRIARS BRIDGE.



FOR COMPARISON WITH THE ADJOINING PHOTOGRAPH (LEFT): A "RECONSTRUCTION" OF THE VIEW FROM WATERLOO BRIDGE (NORTH END) AS IT WOULD BE OBSTRUCTED BY BUILDINGS IOO FT. HIGH ALONG TEMPLE AVENUE AND THAMES SIDE.



ST. PAUL'S AND OTHER BUILDINGS NORTH OF THE THAMES AS VISIBLE AT PRESENT FROM THE SOUTH END OF WATERLOO BRIDGE: A VIEW SHOWING (LEFT) ST. BRIDE'S CHURCH SPIRE AND THE DOME OF THE CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.



FOR COMPARISON WITH THE ADJOINING PHOTOGRAPH (LEFT): A "RECONSTRUCTION" OF THE VIEW FROM WATERLOO BRIDGE (SOUTH END) AS IT WOULD BE OBSTRUCTED BY BUILDINGS 100 FT. HIGH ALONG TEMPLE AVENUE AND THAMES SIDE.



ST. PAUL'S AS IT IS VISIBLE AT PRESENT FROM OXO WHARP, ON THE SOUTH BANK OF THE THAMES WEST OF BLACKFRIARS BRIDGE (SEEN ON THE RIGHT); ONE OF THE FINEST VIEWS OF THE CATHEDRAL FROM THE SURREY SIDE.

St. Paul's, with its stately dome and surmounting cross, "that shines over city and river," has been, ever since Wren built it, the focal point of London to which all views converge. Now its dominance is threatened by the growth of towering modern structures which may soon obscure many of its most cherished aspects. A grave warning on this danger has just been uttered in a Report by Mr. W. Godfrey Allen, F.R.I.B.A., Surveyor of the Fabric of St. Paul's Cathedral, presenting "a survey of views showing the potential results of extensive reconstruction of buildings near the Cathedral to the height authorised by the London Building Act of 1930." We are



SHOWING HOW THE VIEW OF ST. PAUL'S FROM ONO WHARF (SEE ADJOINING PHOTOGRAPH) WOULD BE BLOTTED OUT BY BUILDINGS ERECTED TO THE STANDARDS OF HEIGHT SET UP ON THE EMBANKMENT: A COMPARATIVE "RECONSTRUCTION."

enabled to reproduce here several of these illustrations, showing, side by side, existing views and the same scenes as they might appear after buildings 100 ft. high had been erected in the locality. "In New Bridge Street and along Thames Side," writes Mr. Allen, "buildings carried up to the regulation height would gravely interfere with the distant views of the Cathedral from the Surrey side of the river between Waterloo Bridge and Blackfriars Bridge, and would practically blot out the nearer views from Bankside, Blackfriars Bridge, the Southern Railway Bridge, and Southwark Bridge. Not only are these views among the finest in London, but they would become of [Continued opposite.]

ST. PAUL'S AS SEEN IN OUR TITLE HEADING-COMPARATIVELY UNOBSCURED.



THE HISTORIC HEADING OF "THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS": A DRAWING MADE WHEN ALMOST THE WHOLE OF ST. PAUL'S WAS VISIBLE FROM THE SURREY SHORE— EVIDENCE OF A VIEW GRADUALLY OBSCURED BY THE GROWING HEIGHT OF THAMES-SIDE BUILDINGS.



THE VIEW OF ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL AT PRESENT OBTAINABLE FROM BANKSIDE, ON THE SURREY SHORE OF THE THAMES: A STRIKING CONTRAST ALREADY TO THE OLD VIEW SHOWN IN THE WORLD-FAMOUS HEADING OF "THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS" (REPRODUCED ABOVE).



A NEW MENACE TO THE FAMOUS VIEW OF ST. PAUL'S FROM BANKSIDE: A "RECONSTRUCTION" PHOTOGRAPH INDICATING THE EFFECT OF BUILDINGS 100 FT. HIGH

(AS AUTHORISED BY THE LONDON BUILDING ACT OF 1930) ALONG THAMES SIDE—FOR COMPARISON WITH THE ABOVE ILLUSTRATIONS.

Continued.] increasing importance should the embankment on the Surrey side be extended to Southwark Bridge, as now seems probable... Future damage may very well go much further. The London County Council has the power to consent to erections of greater heights than those prescribed by the Act... The City authorities... could do much to help, and it is greatly to be hoped that they will use the special powers conferred on them by the Town and Country Planning Act of 1932." On our right-hand page we show to what a great extent the view of St. Paul's from the Surrey side of the river has been obscured since the world-famous title heading of

"The Illustrated London News" was drawn, and the far graver menace of potential future buildings. Regarding the method by which outlines of such possible structures have been superimposed on photographs, Mr. Allen writes: "Acknowledgments are due to Mr. J. W. Gordon, for permission to use the Parallacter system, and to Mr. Cecil Brown for treating the photographs by this system." Mr. Allen also mentions that the Cathedral authorities have no right of appeal against a consent given by the London County Council for an increase in the height of an intended building except within 100 yards of the Cathedral site.



Where the King
Will Broadcast
His Christmas
Message
to the Empire:
His Majesty
at the Microphone
at
Sandringham.

O^N Christmas Day this year, as on two previous Christmas Days, his Majesty the King will broadcast from Sandringham a personal message to all parts of the British Empire. This he will do at the conclusion of the great Empire broadcast that is to begin early in the afternoon, and his subjects. cherishing memories of his other greetings, will await his voice with eager anticipation. The big broadcast in question, the "Radio Times" stated the other day, will start with the bells of the Church of the Nativity ringing in Bethlehem, and the sound of them will be the signal for a roundthe-world chain of Christmas chimes. They will be followed immediately by the bells of Bombay, ringing in the Afghan Memorial Church, "and as they fade out we shall hear the War Memorial carillon at Wellington, New Zealand-an old friend to Londoners, as it stood and played in Hyde Park before it was taken out to the Antipodes. Then come the bells of the Parliament House at Ottawa, Federal capital of the Dominion of Canada, and after them the bells of Armagh Cathedral. And so back to London and St. Paul's, before Big Ben strikes two o'clock." Then the Empire Exchange broadcast will begin, and British citizens the world over will tell how they are keeping Christmas. After that the King will speak.

> COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH BY "THE TIMES."

WHERE SANTA CLAUS COMES WITH REWARDS FOR GOOD CHILDREN, AND DEMONS TO PUNISH THE BAD:



ST. NICHOLAS PAYS HIS ANNUAL VISIT TO MITTERNDORF, IN THE SALEKAMMERGUT, TO REWARD THE GOOD CHILDREN AND SCARE THE RAD: "STROHSCHAR" (CURIOUS DEMONS WHO ACCOMPANY THE SAINT AND ARE REMINISCENT OF "JACKS-IN-THE-GREEN," AND OTHER FIGURES CONNECTED WITH VEGETATION CEREMONIES) CHASING YOUNGTERS DOWN THE STREET.





FIGURES IN THE PERCHTEN-MUMMING AT MITTERNDORF; WHEN ST. NICHOLAS VISITS THE VILLAGE, ACCOMPANIED BY SACRED PERSONAGES AND DEMONS,
AND A DEVIL. 5. THE CHRISTMAS ANGEL 6. THE "HABERGEIS."

Our photographs illustrate the Perchten-murming—a custom of the Austrian Saiskammergue—and were tishen at Mittenderf, near Ausses. Murmers representing Death, Devils, strange beasts and monsters, the good Bishop Nicholas, the Christmas Angel, and other figures of the old legends and stories of the Saints, parade on St. Nicholas Day (December 6). They march through the Willage, frightening the bad children and rewarding the good ones. The name

"Perchten" seems to show that the pageant dates back to the ancient cult of Perchta, a goddess of the pagean Germans, who survives under many names in different districts. In connection with the St. Nicholas Day mumming we may, perhaps, be allowed to quote an interesting passage from "Christmas in Ritual and Tradition," by Glement A. Milles. "On Docember 6," he writes, "we reach the most distinctive children's festival of the whole year, St.



TO REWARD THE GOOD CHILDREN AND PUNISH THE BAD: 1. DEATH. 2. A DEVIL. 3. LUCIFER, KING OF HELL. 4. THE GOOD BISHOP NICHOLAS 7. PREPARING THE "STRONSCHAB." 8. A DEMON. 9. THE "MARRIAGE-DEVIL."

Nicholas Day, . . . In various parts of Germany, Switzerland, and Austria, St. Nicholas is mined by a man dressed up as a bishep. In Tyro children pray to the saint on his Eve and leave out hay for his white horse, and a glass of schnaps for his servant. And he comes in all the splendour of a church-image, a reverend, grey-haired figure with flowing beard, gold-broidered cope, giltering mitte and pastoral staff. Children who know their catechism

are rewarded with sweet things out of the basket carried by his servant; those who cannot answer are reproved, and St. Nicholas points to a tertible form that stands behind him with a rod—the hideous Klaubsuf, a shaggy monster with horns, black face, fiery eyes, long red tongue, and chains that clank as he moves. . . Sometimes "there come with." St. Nicholas "the forms of Christ himself, St. Peter, an angel, and the famous Knecht Ruprecht."



GOLF BEFORE NAVAL TALKS: ADMIRAL STANDLEY, SIR JOHN SIMON, MR. MATSUDAIRA, AND MR. NORMAN DAVIS (L. TO R.) ON THE COURSE AT WALTON HEATH; WHERE THEY PLAYED A FOUR-BALL MATCH.

The leading figures in the London naval conversations enjoyed a game of golf at Walton Heath on December 15. Sir John Simon entertained Mr. Matsudaira (the Japanese Ambassador in London) and Mr. Norman Davis and Admiral Standley, the two chief American delegates. Mr. Matsudaira and Sir John Simon beat Mr. Norman Davis and Admiral Standley in a four-ball match by 3 and 2. The game was followed by an informal talk on the present position of the naval discussions.



THE LARGEST VESSEL EVER TO VISIT BRUSSELS: THE MOTOR-SHIP "PRINCE BAUDOUIN"

PASSING THROUGH A BRIDGE ON HER VOYAGE BY CANAL FROM ANTWERP, no Belgian motor passenger-ship "Prince Baudouin," the latest vessel to be placed on the Ostover service, accomplished a delicate piece of navigation on December 13, when she was brown and from Antwerp to Brussels. The ship had to pass through three locks little more that the 371 feet. The operation was made harder by a stiff wind. In our issue October 13 we illustrated by diagram the "Prince Baudouin's" novel steering system.



FLOOR COLLAPSE IN LIVERPOOL, WHERE MANY WERE INJURED: MR. J. DOHERTY, WHOSE PROMPITUDE DOUBTLESS SAVED MANY LIVES, AMONG THE RUINS.

200 people, including many children, who were watching a minstrel show at St. Clement's Chur, Italy considered into the room below who or gave way. Many were injured, and one woman, aged seventy, died later. The accident mighten much more serious if Mr. J. Doherty, the caretaker, had not quickly gone to the cellars turn off the gas, which was escaping from broken pipes; so averting explosion or fire.

A WINDOW ON THE WORLD: EVENTS AND PERSONALITIES OF THE WEEK.



THE JUDICIAL QUARREL-AND RECONCILIA-

LORD HEWART, LORD CHIEF JUSTIC RECONCILED TO LORD SANKEY.

THE JUDICIAL QUARREL—AND RECONCILIA
TION: LORD SANKEY, THE LORD CHANCELLOR.

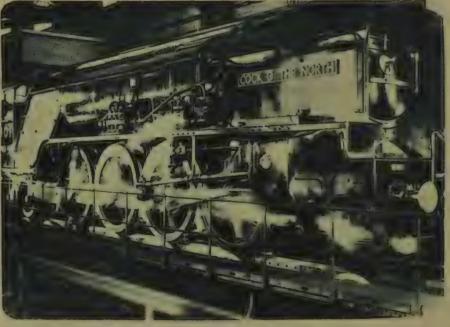
RECONCILED TO LORD SANKEY.

In the House of Lords on December 11, Lord Hewart made a bitter complaint in the debate on the second reading of the Supreme Court of Judicature (Amendment) Bill. He maintained that the Bill would lead to a "Ministry of Justice," and that Clause 2, which concerned the appointment of a Vice-President of the Court of Appeal, constituted an affront to Lord Justice Slesser. Lord Hewart said he would do his utmost to oppose it. Lord Sankey replied to Lord Hewart's assertions in the House of Lords on December 14. He denied that Lord Hewart had been badly treated, or that Clause 2 of the Bill had the slightest bias against any existing Judge. He then warmly approved a suggestion of adding a proviso to Clause 2 safeguarding the seniority rights of existing Judges of the Court of Appeal. Lord Hewart accepted the amendment to Clause 2, and the protagonists of the quarrel ended by shaking hands amicably on the floor of the House.



A £100,000 FIRE IN A FAMOUS HOLLYWOOD STUDIO: THE RUINS OF WARNER BROTHERS'
STUDIOS AT BURBANK, AFTER THE FLAMES HAD SWEPT THROUGH THEM.

One life was lost, fifteen people were injured, and damage estimated at £100,000 was done by a fire which swept through Warner Brothers' film studios at Burbank, near Hollywood, on the night of December 4. The film library of old productions was destroyed, and the flames attacked about half the eighty acres occupied by the studios. The chief of the studio fire brigade collapsed owing to smoke fumes, and died of heart failure. By midnight the fire had been got under control.



THE "COCK O' THE NORTH" GOES 100 MILES AN HOUR WHILE STATIONARY!

THE GREAT L.N.E.R. LOCOMOTIVE AT THE VITRY TESTING-STATION, NEAR PARIS.

The most powerful locomotive in Britain, the L.N.E.R. "Cock o' the North," has been sent to France for tests, and is shown here at Vitry, near Paris, where there is the most up-to-date and elaborate testing equipment in the world. Algiant test-bench allows the engine to travel over rollers at a hundred miles an hour or more, without moving a fraction of an inch forward or backward. The engine, built at Doncaster this year, weighs 166 tons.

A PETROGLYPH OF A GIRAFFE DISCOVERED IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA: A LIFE-LIKE REPRESENTATION CARVED BY A LONG-DEAD NATIVE ARTIST.



PHOTOGRAPHING THE ENGRAVING OF THE GIRAFFE, WHICH IS ON A ROCK IN A RIVER-BED, BY MEANS OF A CAMERA SUSPENDED ABOVE IT. — IN THE FOREGROUND, THE NEARBY WATER-HOLE SURROUNDED BY BRANCHES OF THORN TREES, PLACED THERE BY NATIVES TO PREVENT CATTLE FALLING IN.

MOST interesting discovery of a petroglyph of a giraffe was made recently by Mrs. Edith Thompson while camping in Southern Rhodesia. The figure measures six feet two inches from the tip of the horn to the sole of the fore-hoof. It is engraved on a sloping sandstone rock in a dry river-bed, a tributary of the M'Tetengwe River, twenty miles north of the Limpopo River. Owing to the presence of black material in the chiselled grooves, the outline of the picture is easily discernible and its interior markings stand out strongly. Just below the engraving is a deep water-hole in the rock, which, Mrs. Thompson was informed, has never been known to dry up. A hundred yards away are rock shelters in which the primitive artist probably made his home. The engraving shows signs of erosion, especially in the lower portion. That this part should be affected is not unnatural, since it lies at a lower level and during the summer months the dry river-bed, after a heavy rain, is transformed into a raging torrent lasting for a few hours or days. The ending of the hind-limb at the fetlock joint appears to be due to erosion. Professor M. C. Burkitt, the anthropologist, to whom the photographs were submitted, expressed the opinion that the petroglyph had special interest for three reasons: first, on account of its geographical situation, which is unusual for such engravings; secondly, because of its great size and excellent preservation; and thirdly on account of the technique of the carving.



A LIVE GIRAFFE FOR COMPARISON WITH THE ROCK * ENGRAVING—WHICH IS THUS SHOWN TO REPRESENT A CHARACTERISTIC POSE AND TO REVEAL REMARKABLE OBSERVATION OF DETAIL.

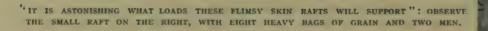


THE GIRAFFE PETROGLYPH IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA, SIX FEET TWO INCHES IN HEIGHT AND INTRODUCING A WONDERFUL AMOUNT OF DETAIL, EVEN TO A REALISTIC MANE: EXCEPTIONALLY LIFE-LIKE NATIVE ROCK-ENGRAVING, WITH A BLACK MATERIAL TO EMPHASISE THE CHISELLED GROOVES.

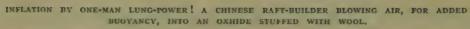
ON "CHINA'S SORROW"—THE YELLOW RIVER RAFTS OF OXHIDE AND SHEEPSKIN; AN ODD FORM OF TRANSPORT.











THE OTHER SIDE OF A LIGHT SHEEPSKIN RAFT MADE FOR ONE OCCUPANT: THE FRAMEWORK, WITH INFLATED SKINS ATTACHED, EASILY CARRIED.

EASILY PORTABLE: A LIGHT ONE-MAN RAFT CONSTRUCTED OF INFLATED

ATTACHED TO A LATTICE-WORK OF FRAIL-LOOKING POLES.

"The Yellow River, or Hwang Ho," writes Mr. Harrison Forman, "is one of the most unusual rivers in the world. While the Yangtsze-Kiang is navigable by ocean steamers for more than 1500 miles from its mouth near Shanghai, the Hwang Ho, though almost 3000 miles long, is navigable only the last 25 miles or so even by ordinary junks! With its head-waters high up in the heretofore unexplored regions of the Amnyl Machin (the Tibetan 'mystery mountain,' reported possibly higher than Everest) it runs for over 1500 miles confined between almost continuous mountain masses. It loses altitude quickly—at the rate of approximately ten feet per mile—until it reaches Chungwei, beyond Lanchow; whence it widens

and moves along somewhat slowly to the sea. Draining a great area of friable loess soil, it washes down much yellow sediment. Hence its name, and also that of the Yellow Sea at its mouth. When the current slackens in winter, silt and sand settle; the river-bed rises; and the peasants build confining embankments. Rising river beds and rising waters necessitate still higher embankments, until at length the river is flowing sometimes as much as 25 to 30 feet above the level of the surrounding countryside. Eventually, a break occurs somewhere, and the river disgorges its silt-laden waters over many thousands of square miles, causing death and desolation, and famine for years to come. More than that—
[Continued opposite.]

ON "CHINA'S SORROW": GIANT WOODEN WATER - WHEELS AT LANCHOW-

PICTURESQUE IRRIGATION MACHINERY ON THE YELLOW RIVER



SHOWING THE FORM OF THE WOODEN SCOOPS THAT CARRY UP WATER TO THE CONDUIT AT THE TOP: DETAIL OF ONE OF THE GIGANTIC WATER-WHEELS AT LANCHOW.



THE ENORMOUS SIZE OF THE WOODEN WATER-WHEELS AT LANCHOW: A COMPARATIVE VIEW SHOWING A MAN BESIDE THEM WITH A CART AND HORSE AND A DONKEY.



SHOWING THE HIGH-LEVEL CONDUIT THAT CARRIES WATER OVER THE CITY WALL AT LANCHOW TO FIELDS BEYOND: A GENERAL VIEW OF THE THREE GIANT WATER-WHEELS (WITH ANOTHER SMALLER ONE VISIBLE ON THE LEFT) OPERATED ONLY AT HIGH WATER SEASONS.

ITALIAN "AMBASSADORS" AT THE ITALIAN EMBASSY:
MASTERPIECES VENERATED BY THE FASCISTS SENT TO LONDON.



"MARS AND VENUS"; BY PAOLO VERONESE (1528-1588): PERHAPS THE FINEST WORK IN THE COLLECTION AT THE ITALIAN EMBASSY, AND ONE OF THE FEW PAINTINGS REGARDED AS BEING ENTIRELY FROM VERONESE'S OWN HAND.



"the venus of the tortoise"; by sebastiano del piombo (1485(?)-1547); 'a masterpiece traditionally inspired by the "aphrodite" of phidias.

IN March of this year a number of Italian works of art by classical artists were sent from Italy to London to decorate the new Italian Em-bassy in Grosvenor Square. It was with Signor Mussolini's active help and approval, as we mentioned in our issue of April 21, that national treasures of Italy were dispatched to England for this purpose, since it is in accordance with the spirit of the Fascist régime to venerate the artistic splendours of the past, and because paintings such as these, in the words of "The Times'" art critic, "themselves exercise important ambassa-dorial functions." Some of the furniture and pictures that decorate the Embassy were illustrated in our issue of April 21: here and on the opposite page we give further examples. further examples. About fifty paintings were brought over, including examples of the Sienese, Florentine, Venetian, and other Renaissance schools

of painting.



"MADONNA AND CHILD WITH ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST AND ST. ANTHONY"; SCHOOL OF PESELLINO (1422-1457): A BEAUTIFUL BUT RATHER FORMAL COMPOSITION.



ARTISTIC SPLENDOURS OF THE ITALIAN EMBASSY: NATIONAL TREASURES OF ITALY ADORNING LONDON.





"MADONNA AND CHILD"; BY COSIMO TURA (1420(?)-1495): A PICTURE WITH AN INSCRIPTION ON THE HACK TO THE EFFECT THAT IT IS THE WORK OF THAT FERRARESE PAINTER, AND HAVING ARCHITECTURE, FESTOONS OF FRUIT, AND POSE IN HIS CHARACTERISTIC STYLE.



"VENUS"; BY SANDRO BOTTICELLI (1444-1510): ONE OF THREE SURVIVING STUDIES, ONE IN BERLIN AND ONE IN SWITZERLAND, FOR THE FIGURE OF VENUS IN BOTTICELLI'S FAMOUS "BIRTH OF VENUS."

VENUS IN BOTTICELLI'S FAMOUS "BIRTH OF VENUS."

THE magnificent Italian paintings illustrated on this and the opposite page now hang in the Italian Embassy in London, at 4, Grosvenor Square. Signor Michele de Benedetti, in a recent article in "Apollo," discusses some of the paintings here reproduced. Concerning the Madonna and Child by a follower of Pesellino, he writes: "The colouring and the rather formal composition show Pesellino's influence, especially in the figure of St. Anthony. But the painter lacked Pesellino's power of setting his figures in reltef and his clear distinction of planes." Of others he says: "The portrait of a youth by Lorenzo di Credi is one of his early works. He was a fellow-pupil with Leonardo da Vinci in the studio of Verrocchio, and there is often considerable resemblance between his work and that of Leonardo. In this picture, which may be compared with the so-called portrait of Ginevra Benci in the Liechtenstein Gallery in Vienna, now generally ascribed to Leonardo, the landscape and the bold way in which the figure is posed against the dark background are strongly reminiscent of Leonardo's style. But the general effect betrays the constitutional timidity of Lorenzo's delicate work. . . . A Madonna and Child by the Ferrarese painter, Cosimo Tura, has on the back an inscription to the effect that it is his work. There is undoubtedly a certain relationship between this picture and his Madonna in the Colonna collection. In most of his paintings he shows more austerity, depth, and dramatic power. Here we find a grace and charm which are usually absent from his work."



The World of the Theatre.

By J. T. GREIN.



CHRISTMAS AND THE THEATRE.

THE kiddies are home. The schools have "broken up," and now fathers, mothers, uncles, and aunts are faced with their problems of entertaining them. Not a difficult problem, for youngsters, unlike grown-ups, are

"HALF-A-CROWN," AT THE ALDWYCH: WALTER I. OF "MESSONIA" (SYDNEY HOWARD), DISQUISED AS A LABOURER WHEN THE MOB BROKE INTO HIS PALACE, SUDDENLY REVEALS HIS IDENTITY BY DISPLAYING THE SIGN OF HIS ROYALTY ON HIS SHIRT!

This is the climax of the Messonian revolution, when the mob breaks into the palace. Walter I., an ex-grocer from Yorkshire, mingled with the crowd disguised as a labourer. A moment came, however, when he was constrained to reveal his identity. In the confusion, someone turned out the lights, and he escaped. Sydney Howard's humour is the mainstay of the piece.

and the players we can see to-day. While I am referring to pantomime, I know where there is sure to be an original and diverting show where kiddies are certain to enjoy themselves, and that is Miss Joan Luxton's Children's Theatre production of "Sindbad the Sailor," up at the Embassy, where Mr. Brember Wills will play Captain Ali Briny, supported by a cat and an elephant and a mermaid. For the tiny tots, "Buckie's Bears," at the Scala, with its fairies and pirates in a joyful escapade, is sure to win their approval; and, talking of pirates, is there a

pirates in a joyful escapade, is sure to win their approval; and, talking of pirates, is there a boy—and, as girls love boys' books, a girl either—who will not jump for joy at the prospect of seeing "Treasure Island"? The People's National Theatre are reviving Miss Nancy Price's adaptation of "Alice in Wonderland," and I have yet to meet the child who did not love Alice. Miss Italia Conti is reviving again "Where the Rainbow Ends," surely one of the most enchanting of Christmas entertainments for the young folk — take them to a matinée at the Holborn Empire; while at the Royalty Mr. A. A. Milne's fantastically whimsical "Toad of Toad Hall" will have one of our most whimsical actors.

will have one of our most whimsical actors, Mr. Richard Goulden, to set the kiddies screaming with happi-ness at the adven-tures of Mr. Mole. The inevitable "Peter

the palace. Walter I., abourer. A moment came, confusion, someone turned mainstay of the piece.

Robertson will be Peter for the eighth successive time, while Wendy will be taken by that discovery of Mr. Sydney Carroll at the Garden Theatre, Miss Pamela Stanley. There is sure to be a welcome for the production of "The Waltz Dream," at the Winter Garden, so rich in romantic spectacle, so graced by tuneful music, with its picturesque atmosphere of old Vienna, especially as we know that the very beautiful and accomplished Miss Leah Seidl is to fill the principal part.

We have left the kingdom now entirely reserved for the youngsters and entered the realm where the grown-ups seek their Christmas party, too. And for an ingenious example of mystery-mongering and plot-weaving, the new

play, "The Moon is Red," at Daly's, commends itself. This, too, is set in Vienna, but not the Vienna of musical operetta. We are in a city full of cabals and intrigue, with plenty of Nazis to give the situations the kick of danger and Miss Joyce Bland to create a heroine in the grip of a moving terror as the evidence cumulates around her innocence. The end is the weakest part of the tale, because we feel the authors have resolved their spy story with a deus ex machina rather than by a persuasive solution. Still, the illusion holds up to that stage, and the performances of Mr. Austin Trevor as the bad baron, Mr. Hugh Miller as the keen journalist, and Mr. Gerald Rawlinson as the young victim are all admirable; while Mr. George Curzon, who has to make a volte-face at the last lap, and Mr. Eille Norwood as the diplomatic inquisitor—how pleased we are to see this fine actor back on the stage again!—give that tensity of situation which Miss Bland so sensitively reflects. Here is a straightforward, skilful, well-constructed, and effective play, not without its uncertain passages and its unconvincing curtain, and, taken as a whole, Mr. Denison Clift and Mr. Frank Gregory are to be congratulated in their collaboration, for they have devised first-rate entertainment. Spy stories, thrillers, and mystery-plays always appeal if they are well done, because they intrigue us into playing amateur detectives. Who killed Cock Robin? sets everybody guessing, and half the battle of the playwright is won.



THE REVIVAL OF "THE BING BOYS ARE HERE," AT THE ALHAMBRA: LUCIFER BING (GEORGE ROBEY; CENTRE) HAVING LOST HIS VOICE, OLIVER BING (REBLA) DEPUTISES FOR HIM IN A SERENADE TO EMMA (VIOLET LORAINE).

"The Bing Boys are Here," the famous war-time revue, was revived at the Alhambra (after a successful tour)—the scene of the original production—on December 18. George Robey and Violet Loraine are in their original parts. She is seen here wearing the dress she wore in the war-time version.

That is a good reason for anticipating Mr. Basil Dean's new production, the thriller "Inside the Room," which will open at the Queen's.

I should like to write at length on Mr. Michael Egan's clever comedy, "The Dominant Sex," produced at the Embassy, which is so good that I feel sure the opportunity will arise again when it is promoted—as I feel sure it must be—to the West End. But if you look for the unusual and the different, let me call attention to that strangely beautiful play, "Lady Precious Stream," at the Little. For this "traditional Chinese play" is of a texture which embraces within itself the whole gamut of plays to which I have referred, from nurseryland to sophisticated maturity—adventure and conquest, fairytale and fact, spectacle and romance. It does it so lightly and delicately that the phantasmagoria is curiously fascinating.

lightly and delicately that the phantasmagoria is curiously fascinating.

Do not look for elaborate scenic devices and all the mechanical resources of our well-equipped stage. This tale of Precious Stream who wedded a gardener and became an empress evolves itself from imagination. It does not encumber its progress with etceteras, for the Chinese have the wisdom to know that, so long as the illusion is established, nothing else matters. And Dr. S. I. Hsiung has created with such gossamer delicacy, and been fortunate enough to have his play acted with such precious skill, that the gentle sophistication is never harshly shattered, and the result is an original and enchanting entertainment.

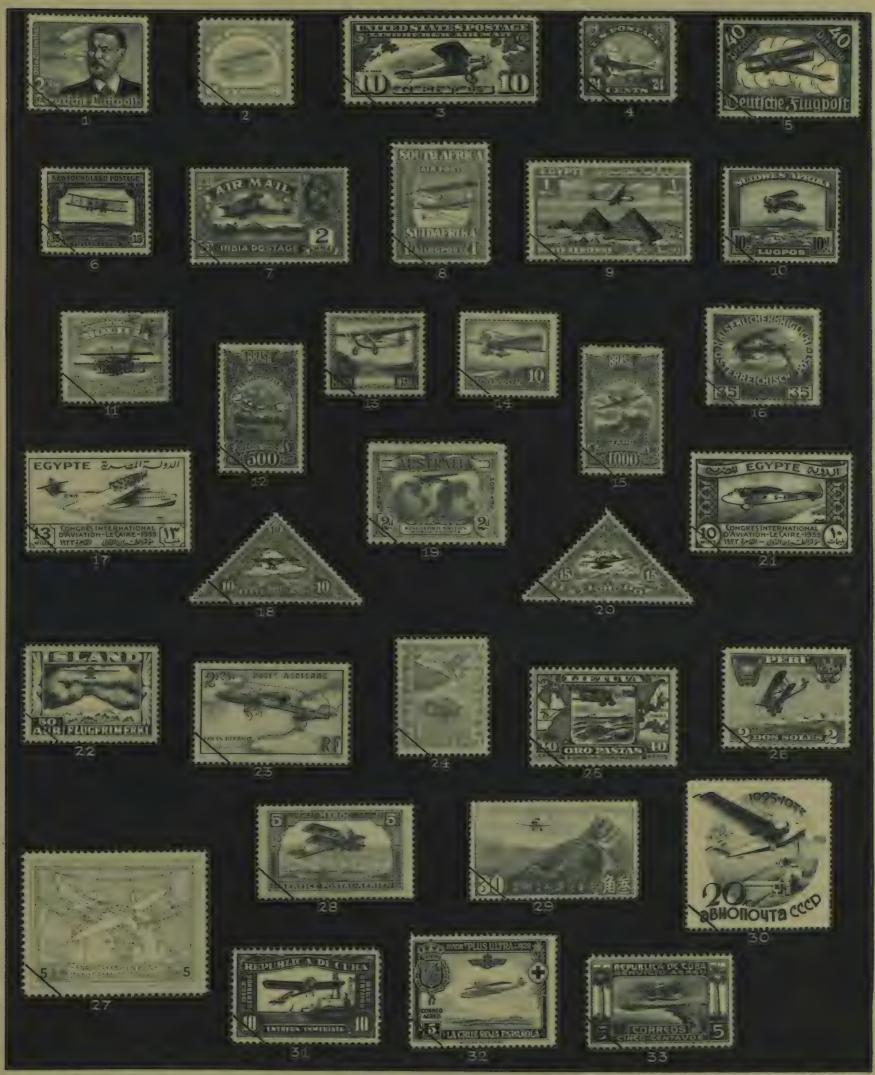


"THE MOON IN THE YELLOW RIVER," THE SUCCESSFUL PLAY ABOUT THE FREE STATE, AT THE HAYMARKET: (L. TO R.) BRUCE BELFRAGE, AS TAUSCH, THE GERMAN ENGINEER; FRED O'DONOVAN AS COMMANDANT LANIGAN; AND CHARLES CARSON AS DOBELLE.

"The Moon in the Yellow River" deals with that modern topsy-turvy land, the Irish Free State. The practical, methodical Tausch has built a power-house on the river. He is here seen, bewildered and horrified, threatening to denounce Commandant Lanigan as a murderer, because Lanigan shot a revolutionary leader "in the execution of his duty"—namely, the defence of Tausch's own precious power-house. Dobelle appreciates the irony of the situation.

AVIATION IN PHILATELY: STAMPS OF THE AEROPLANE AGE.

STAMPS COURTEOUSLY LENT BY MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391, STRAND.



1. Germany; 1934. Otto Lilienthal and his glider, about 1890. 2. U.S.A.; 1918. Curtiss machine. 3. U.S.A.; 1927. Colonel Lindbergh's "Spirit of St. Louis" (Ryan monoplane). 4. U.S.A.; 1923. Douglas machine. 5. Germany; 1919. Early biplane. 6. Newfoundland; 1928. First aeroplane to cross the Atlantic non-stop, leaving St. John's 1919. 7. India; 1929. Imperial Airways liner. 8. South Africa; 1925. De Hayilland "D.H.9." 9. Egypt; 1933. Imperial Airways liner "Heracles." 10. South-West Africa; 1931. Modern biplane. 11. Bolivia; 1924. Morane Parasol. 12. Brazil; 1929. Santos Dumont's biplane "14 bis." 1906. 13. Japan; 1929. 14. Hungary; 1933. Lockheed Vega "Justice for Hungary." 15. Brazil; 1929. R. de Barros's seaplane, "Jahu," 1927. 16. Austria; 1917. Albatross machine. 17. Egypt; 1934. Dornier "DO.X."

18. Estonia; 1925. Fokker, 1918. 19. Australia; 1931. Kingsford Smith's world flights in his Fokker "Southern Cross." 20. Estonia; 1925. Junkers machine, 1924. 21. Egypt; 1934. Imperial Airways "Atalanta" type. 22. Iceland; 1934. Aeroplane in the Arctic, with aurora borealis. 23. France; 1934. Bl. riot's cross-Channel flight, 1909. 24. Yugoslavia; 1934. Aeroplane over the island in Lake Bohinisko where the Duke and Duchess of Kent became engaged 25. Lithuania; 1934. Transatlantic flight of Darius and Girenas, 1932. 26. Peru; 1934. Fairey fighter. 27. Greece; 1926. Seaplane, type used by De Pinedo. 28. French Morocco; 1927. 29. China; 1932. Modern Junkers machine. 30. U.S.S.R.; 1934. Modern Russian air-liner. 31. Cuba; 1926. Bl. Friot monoplane, 1909. 32. Spain; 1926. 33. Cuba; 1927.

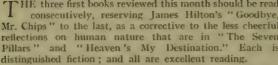
We continue here our varied series of reproductions of postage stamps, illustrating some of those printed for the air mails of the world. It will be seen that the nations do honour to the pioneers of flight; for Lilienthal, Santos Dumont, Blériot, Clark and Brown, the heroes of the first Transatlantic flight, and Lindbergh are all commemorated here. No less interesting are those which record in philately

more recent feats of aviation. Iceland, for example, shows in an issue of 1934 her Arctic air mail; the Lithuanians, Darius and Girenas, who crashed in Pomerania after crossing the Atlantic, are commemorated; and Yugoslavia, the last European country, except Great Britain, to issue her own air stamps, records the scene of the Duke and Duchess of Kent's engagement.



Notes for the Rovel-Reader: Fiction of the Month.





The three first books reviewed this month should be read consecutively, reserving James Hilton's "Goodbye, Mr. Chips" to the last, as a corrective to the less cheerful reflections on human nature that are in "The Seven Pillars" and "Heaven's My Destination." Each is distinguished fiction; and all are excellent reading.

"The Seven Pillars," by Fernandez Florez, translated by Sir Peter Chalmers Mitchell, is, as the latter says, life seen through the hard and positive eyes of a Spaniard. Certainly it bears the stamp of the Latin mind. It presents to us the Devil, walking disconsolately to and fro in the modern world, where science has discredited him and even the children have not learned to fear him. Mankiad is, as ever, carnal, predatory, and avaricious; but its antics are laughable, and the wheels of the social organisation continue to revolve. The Devil, however, is still the Devil, with a winning card up his sleeve. He obeys the exhortation of a pious hermit to stop his temptations. He commands his creatures, the Seven Deadly Sins, to vanish into the maw of a gaping mountain, and with bestial fumes, filling the quiet night with horror, the symbolical monsters disappear. What follows? Without the stimulus of Sin, the social machinery runs down. Men, for example, are no longer gluttonous, and vineyards and the arts of cultivation decay. They are no longer

cultivation decay money - grubbing : and the banks crash. They are chaste, and without jealousy, and the drama peters out; Othello and Romeo and Juliet are senseless to an are senseless to an audience stripped of passion. When Pride ceases to spur men along the road to knowledge, and Envy to lash their creative energies, the down-fall of the social order is complete. The Devil, you see, knew very well what he was about; he had despoiled even the pure of heart of their practice of compassion, their tender minis trations to the sin r. The collapse civilisation has been imagined many times, but never as Señor never as Señor Florez' devastat-ing satire imagines it. "The Seven Pillars" closes upon the spectacle of a mob, hungry, poverty - stricken and despairing, clamouring before Sin to be returned

to them.
"Heaven's My Destination " is no such flight of fancy. It is the precise study of a young American funda-mentalist who is struggling to com-

mentalist who is struggling to communicate his faith in the power of goodness to his fellow-citizens. George Brush was a book-agent. He met many people in the course of his travels, and he let no one pass without trying to direct him to the good life. (He had, he explained, been through a difficult conversion himself.) He was opposed by puzzled and furious reactions. He was snubbed, jailed, and manhandled; there were individuals who caught a glimpse of his meaning, but they were rare. The current of his belief, which is a beautiful thing, runs side by side with humour—not George's humour, for he had none, but Mr. Thornton Wilder's. "Heaven's My Destination" is extremely amusing. Its wit serves to throw into relief the narrow earnestness of a young man, perplexed, baffled by interminable discouragements, plodding over the stony way to the heaven of his destination.

Then we have "Goodbye, Mr. Chips," another study of a simple soul. Mr. Chips was a public schoolmaster, and if he had heart-searchings about the efficacy of his influence in the school, he kept them to himself. Ambition had faded early, and he knew he was not brilliant. While you are with George Brush, you are the spectator of failure. Mr. Chips had not failed. When he passed on, and the memory of his boys, his thousands of boys, flashed for the last time across his vision, the sweet reasonableness of him had had its triumphs. He had been a lovable man. It is a sufficient epitaph.

"The House and the Sea," by Johan Bojer, covers the war years, when the Scandinavian neutrals made millions, and, in the case of Norway, paid toll for them in seamen's lives. The plot follows the fortunes of two law-students, Pram and Nygaard, beginning with the early days when they shared their room and their poverty. Pram was an internationalist dreamer then, obsessed by the sufferings of humanity; Nygaard was a nationalist, a moderate man, with no particular animus against capitalism. Their individual integrity was tested when riches began to pour into their country. It was Pram who jettisoned his haunting thought of sinking ships—his brother had gone down in one of them—and of massacred armies, and gambled to his eventual ruin and disgrace on the duration of the agony. This is a masterly novel, in which Herr Bojer's lucidity, his direct style, and his comprehension of the problems of the average man are conspicuous.

To the patient—and sooner or later we are all patients—novels that describe the practice of medicine from the other side of the mystery have a peculiar fascination. That is probably rather an obstacle than an advantage to the novelist. Helen Ashton, with her usual acumen, has been careful to keep the prone figure of Mrs. Morland, the sick person, in the foreground. "Hornet's Nest" is the story,

"White Angel," by John Heygate, has an art that reminds one of Pater's tribute to speculative culture, that it roused the human spirit to a life of constant and eager observation. Mr. Heygate's observation has this quality. A married couple travelling to the Tyrol, a house in Westminster and a house in Sussex behind them and winter sport before; could you have a more commonplace beginning? The truth is, there is nothing commonplace in "White Angel." The summary of it is highly misleading; though no one who read its predecessor, "Talking Picture," is likely to be misled. The Englishman, his wife, the Italian smuggler, the Tyrolean Customs guard are all there, just as the publisher's note tells you. What it does not tell you is that they live and move and have their being in an atmosphere of extraordinary clarity.

"Pitch Lake," by Alfred H. Mendes, is a starkly realistic novel. Mr. Mendes knows the people he writes about intimately, the medley of black and white and yellow races that makes up the population of his native island. The plot runs roughly on the lines of "An American Tragedy," and the driving force of it is hardly less vigorous. It is a book to be read; not only because it comes from the Tropics, but also because it underlines the fact that the tragedy is not American, nor West Indian, nor European.

It is the world's tragedy of drifting, rudderless youth.

It is the world's tragedy of drifting, rudderless youth.
"Consenting Party," by Monica Redlich, and "Never-Ending," by Barbara Hughes - Stanton, are novels about capricious people, the difference bethe difference be-tween them—no small difference— being that "Con-senting Party" has a light and engaging wit, and "Never-Ending" has not. Miss Redlich is too art-ful to let Nicky, the girl who couldn't say no, be re-formed. She is in-corrigible; which is why the procession of her love affairs or her love analists is so entertaining. What she did and why she did it is not commented upon; she did it, and that is that. Miss Hughes-Stanton is more serious. The younger women, making their experiences, discuss marriage and divorce and how mother misunderstands them. It is possible they may not bore other readers as they bored the reviewer. so entertaining readers as they bored the reviewer. But George, the philanderer with the dangerous charm, who de-claimed Shake-speare and Omar Khayyam and No; George is in-





THE BEST "CHRISTMAS CARDS": THE FAMOUS DE LÁSZLÓ PORTRAITS OF THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF KENT MOUNTED AND BEARING FACSIMILES OF THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES' SIGNATURES.

BEARING FACSIMILES OF THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES' SIGNATURES.

Now that the time for sending Christmas cards has arrived, our readers might do well to consider the excellence and novelty as "cards" of our specially mounted colour-prints of Mr. P. A. de Lásló's magnificent portraits of their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Kent, which were reproduced in full colours in our Royal Wedding Number. These are now available at the nominal price of five shillings each, beautifully mounted, and they are being sold for the benefit of St. George's Hospital, in accordance with the wish expressed by H.R.H. the Duke of Kent. No charge has been made by the proprietors of "The Illustrated London News" for the printing and the mounting, so that the whole of the proceeds goes to the Hospital. Those of our readers who would like to acquire copies of these famous pictures are advised to apply as early as possible to the Publisher, 346, Strand, London, W.C.2, enclosing a remittance value five shillings for each mounted portrait, plus one shilling for postage and packing, irrespective of whether one subject is ordered or the pair. The actual colour reproductions measure 8½ inches by 11½ inches; and the mounts are 15½ inches by 20½ inches. The original paintings, it may be added, are now on view in St. James's Palace, with the royal wedding presents.

brilliantly told, of the predicament of a young general practitioner who was right when the famous surgeon was practitioner who was right when the famous surgeon was wrong; but it is the meek woman in the nursing home, a case first bungled and then retrieved, who dominates the interest. In "Private Worlds" by Phyllis Bottome, the principal characters are the psychologists on the staff of a mental hospital. The romantic interest is strong. Love and jealousy, and the devotion of the three doctors, two men and a woman, to their work are thrown into the balance on their side. And yet the tragedy of the patients overshadows them; and it is Miss Bottome's creation of Carrie Flint, so little, lost, and terrible, that remains supreme.

BOOKS REVIEWED.

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The Seven Pillars. By Señor Fernandez Florez. (Macmillan; 7s. 6d.)
Heaven's My Destination. By Thornton Wilder. (Longmans; 7s. 6d.)
Goodbye, Mr. Chips. By James Hilton. (Hodder and Stoughton; 5s.)
The House and the Sea. By Johan Bojer. (Appletons; 7s. 6d.)
Hornet's Nest. By Helen Ashton. (Gollancz; 7s. 6d.)
Private Worlds. By Phyllis Bottome. (Bodley Head; 7s. 6d.)
White Angel. By John Heygate. (Cape; 7s. 6d.)
Pitch Lake. By Alfred H. Mendes. (Duckworth; 7s. 6d.)
Consenting Party. By Monica Redlich. (Hamish Hamilton; 7s. 6d.)
Never-Ending. By Barbara Hughes-Stanton. (Secker; 7s. 6d.)
Give Me Death. By Isabel Briggs Myers. (Gollancz; 7s. 6d.)
The Casino Murder Case. By S. S. Van Dine. (Cassell; 7s. 6d.)
The Diamond Ransom Murders. By Nellise Child. (Collins; 7s. 6d.)

thought he was being nice——! tolerable.

The opening chapter of "Give Me Death" excites one's suspicion that Isabel Briggs Myers, American though she is, is over-familiar with Baker Street. The investigator with the luxurious yawn and the smoke-ring and the armchair has to be borne with; so has the silly reporter who is locked in the pantry and left there, and the high-toned, exclusive American family. This is only Miss Myers taking time to warm to her work. She has hit on something new in the way of a climax, and it is worth waiting for. The investigator discards Sherlock Holmes's slippers; the reporter emerges from his comic turn, and develops into a principal actor; and there is a very good reason—the marrow of the mystery—why the family are members of the old Southern aristocracy.

The other two thrillers are also American. "The Casino Murder Case" is by S. S. Van Dine, who knows what his public wants and sees that they get it. Philo Vance, as before, undertakes the detection of the murders, and they are smart murders, and give you a sensational view of high-class villainy in New York. Mr. Van Dine is well up to his usual form. Nellise Child knows what the public wants, too; she reintroduces Detective Lieutenant Jerry Irish in "The Diamond Ransom Murders," and she employs the kidnapping racket, with variations that cover a great deal more ground than straightforward kidnapping The opening chapter of "Give Me Death" excites one's

CHRISTMAS IS COMING





GUINNESS FOR STRENGTH 8

PAGE FOR COLLECTORS.

CHINESE GLASS FOR BRIGHTON.

By FRANK DAVIS.



THE collection of old Chinese glass formed by the late Mr. Ellice Clark is familiar, and, indeed, indispensable, to students of this rather out-of-the-way subject. It is by general consent the best accumulation of its kind in existence in this country; it was exhibited at Stockholm as early as 1914, and has also been seen at South Kensington. Mr. Burroughs Abbey has now acquired the whole collection en bloc, and, as a Sussex man with a proper pride in the county, is offering his acquisition on loan to the Brighton Museum and Art Gallery. It is impossible to imagine a refusal on the part of the trustees, so no doubt the collection will be housed in its new home within a month or so frame new home within a month or so from now.

A great many people must be on at least nodding terms with pottery and porcelain who are unaware that such stuff as Chinese glass exists, except, perhaps,

that such stuff as Chinese glass exists, except, perhaps, in the shape of cheap, pretty little modern snuff-bottles. They need feel no shame, for fine old pieces are quite rare, and in many cases are so like other and more familiar materials that anyone can be excused for not recognising them as glass. For example, if you saw Fig. 1 in a shop window, you would—unless you were very keen of eye—put it down as a pleasant cloudy - white jade. You would see the difference easily enough when you handled it: weight, a certain transparency, a difference in touch, the play of light on the surface; glass it must be, and glass it is. If you are normally curious, you would then begin to wonder how this piece was made; you would decide casually that it was moulded, look closer, and admit reluctantly and with astonish-

reluctantly and with astonishment that the whole thing, ment that the whole thing, including the handles and rings, is carved. The trick, of course, may be simple enough when you know how, but until I do know how I shall continue to consider this a technical achievement considerably in advance of jade carving. advance of jade carving. Cutting the latter material must be difficult and must require endless patience, but at least the stuff does resist pressure; it may be one of the hardest, but it is not the most brittle

material known.

The vase of Fig. 3 is a tour de force only one degree less extraordinary; its colour is not to everyone's taste—brown, with speckles of gold—the colour known as "aventurine," a glass material discovered by chance (par aventure) and composed of glass, oxide of copper, and oxide of iron. A photograph nearly always makes these typically Chinese conceptions look like formless

masses, without balance or rhythms: the reader is requested to take my word for it that this piece, apart from its extraordinary technique (most people are still at a loss to understand how glass can be so deeply undercut without disaster), does exhibit a baroque pattern of foliage and animals which is full of life and movement.

2. A FINE CHINESE GLASS BOTTLE, CAMEO-

It is not possible in an illustration to show how different is a moulded from a carved piece of glass. There happens to be a jade imitation very similar to Fig. 1 which is moulded, and when you put the two together, the blurred edges and general lack of crisp definition of the moulded specimen are most striking.

A good many of us in our heart of

A good many of us, in our heart of hearts, prefer straightforward pots and vases to any number of technical antics, however ingenious, and if I could take my choice of the collection I should want such a thing as Fig. 4-a deep purple-blue vase.



I. A PIECE OF CHINESE CARVED GLASS WHICH IS AN IMITATION OF WHITE JADE: A FINE EXAMPLE FROM THE ELLICE CLARK COLLECTION, WHICH HAS BEEN ACQUIRED BY MR. BURROUGHS ABBEY AND OFFERED ON LOAN TO THE BRIGHTON MUSEUM.

3. A TOUR DE CHINESE GLASS-CARVING-ELLICE CLARK COLLECTION, WHICH IS CONFINED TO TEENTH AND EIGHTEENTH CENTURIES: A VASE WITH A PATTERN SO DEEPLY UNDER-CUT THAT IT IS DIFFICULT TO

4. THE SIMPLE AND AUSTERE IN CHINESE GLASS; A VASE DEEP PURPLE-BLUE IN COLOUR.



CONCEIVE HOW THE CRAFTSMAN

CARVED IT.

5. A TYPICAL EXAMPLE OF WORK IN OTHER MEDIUMS IMITATED BY THE CHINESE GLASS-WORKER: AN ALTAR SET OF TRADITIONAL STYLE IN CARVED GLASS; WITH A PATTERN OF PINK ON WHITE.

Here you have fine line, rich colour, and extreme simplicity—in short, a genuine work of art. It is at once the glory and the curse of the Chinese craftsman that his ingenuity is sometimes almost divine, and sometimes merely damnable. (What follows is an expression of purely personal opinion: it is not the promulgation of a law binding upon all the faithful.)

Fig. 5, an altar set of traditional pattern, is pink on white and, I suggest, peculiarly horrible. Its production in glass, as a substitute for bronze, porcelain, or cloisonné enamel, is to me a crime against the gods, and I have a strong feeling that the ancestors of the maker acquired little honour when this laboriously, and indeed beautifully, made set came into being. In contrast to this pink and white Plymouth Rock attrocity is Fig. 2, a sturdy holdly shaped bottle that atrocity is Fig. 2, a sturdy, boldly shaped bottle that imitates nothing but itself. Colour—ruby-red on a crystalline ground. Both 2 and 5 are cameo cut—the technique of the Portland Vase. It is not unamusing to call to mind that when the learned, and those who wished to be thought learned, in the last half of the

eighteenth century, were in ecstasy before this famous and singularly dreary example of Græco-Roman craftsmanship, the Chinese at the other side of the world were carrying out this particular technique were complete success and almost with nonchalance. Take this bottle (Fig. 2) You put a layer of the class of the success and almost with nonchalance. complete success and almost with nonchalance. Take this bottle (Fig. 2). You put a layer of ruby glass over the foundation of white, and then calmly carve the pattern without injuring the white beneath. I presume that if you are carving jade and make a slight mistake, it is possible to correct it by going a trifle deeper or somehow getting round an awkward corner: but you can't do that with glass; one slip, and the whole bottle

The Chinese do not seem to have had any very great opinion of their glass wares, but to have looked upon them mainly

as cheap and inferior substi-tutes for the nobler por-celain and yet nobler jade. As early as Han times mortuary cicadas—the insects which were the emblems of immortality — are found made of glass as substitutes for jade cicadas, while later centuries provide numerous instances (as Fig. 5) in which traditional forms are copied in glass. In one or two instances in this collection are shapes which appear to be unknown in porcelain, but on the whole the familiar on the whole the familiar forms and their colourings are imitated. Figs. 1 and 3 give some notion of the incredible capacity of the workers. This collection is wholly confined to the seventeenth and eighteenth centeenth and eighteenth and eighteenth eighteenth and eighteenth eighteenth and eighteenth eight teenth and eighteenth cen-turies, but it is perhaps worth pointing out that since it was formed a good deal of information has come to light

information has come to light regarding the beginnings of the craft in China. It used to be supposed that all glass found in Han tombs was imported from the West and engraved or carved in China. It now seems certain that the Chinese were making glass themselves in early Han times; if Bishop White's theories are to be accepted, we shall be able to date Chinese glass to still earlier centuries. The trouble is that none of the tombs of which he writes were excavated under proper scienhe writes were excavated under proper scientific supervision, and until an early tomb is examined under the strictest possible conditions, it is unfortunately impossible to reach 'a conclusion which will satisfy a critical mind. I am informed that local farmers in Honan I am informed that local farmers in Honan and the other provinces strongly resent any interference with what they consider their right to rob the tombs, and there appears to be little chance of any serious excavation until the Government not only acquires a conscience in this matter, but is able to impress its will upon the people.

In conclusion, I must thank Messrs. Bluett and Sons for enabling me to see this collection at

and Sons for enabling me to see this collection at their galleries before it was packed for removal.





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BOOKS OF THE DAY.

(Continued from Page 1052.)

Rhymes from Many Lands." Translated by Rose Fyleman. Pictures by Valery Carrick (3s. 6d.); and a dainty series of 1s. 3d. booklets with "colour-plated" covers each containing a single tale—to wit, "The Enchanted Blanket." By Compton Mackenzie. Pictures by A. H. Watson; "Sergeant Poppett and Policeman James." By Algernon Blackwood. Pictures by May Smith; "The Clumber Pup." By Eleanor Farjeon. Pictures by Irene Mountfort; "Broody." The Story of a Moon-struck Rabbit. By Mabel Marlowe. Pictures by Harry Rountree; "The Westward Rock." By L. A. G. Strong. Pictures by L. R. Brightwell; and "Robin the Monk." By Roy Meldrum. Pictures by the Author.

Another "work of noble note," nicely pictured, is "Mime and Shah" (A Nursery Story). By Vicomite de Mauduit. Illustrated by Adam E. Horne (Foulis; 5s.). Five of the characters are being produced as toys by Dean's Rag Book Co., and part of the author's royalties will go to the Princess Elizabeth of York Hospital for Children. Distinctive in quality also are "Flash." The Story of a Horse, a Coach-Dog, and the Gypsies. By Esther Averill. Illustrated by F. Rojanskovsky (Faber; 5s.); and "The Turf-Cutter's Donkey." An Irish Story of Mystery and Adventure. By Patricia Lynch. Illustrated by Jack B. Yeats (Dent; 5s.). This last is encircled by a label inscribed—"Recommended by the Junior Book Club." Young readers who like quantity as well as quality in their books will revel in "Wonder Tales of Many Lands." By Bernard Henderson and C. Calvert. Illustrated by Constance E. Rowlands (Philip Allan; 5s.). An ample page is unrolled, for littler folk, in "The Red Pixie Book." By Enid Blyton. Illustrated by Katherine Nixon (Newnes; 3s. 6d.).

One of the best new stories, with quite an "Alice" touch in text and drawings, is "The Tail Tale." By A. L. Gibson. Illustrated by H. R. Millar (Rich and Cowan; 5s.). Alice's White Rabbit has had many descendants. Among them are "The Blue Rabbit." By Ethne Pryor. Illustrated by Dorothy Armstrong (Methuen; 5s.), second prize-winner in the publisher's competition for children's stories; and "The Adventures of the Three Baby Bunnies." By Patricia Robins, aged twelve. Illustrations by Grizel Maxwell, aged fourteen (Ivor Nicholson; 5s.). Our juniors are tending to provide their own pictorial literature, and eventually, perhaps, their seniors will be frozen out of the Christmas book market.

This season's Christmas fiction for boys and girls includes, as usual, long adventure stories wearing the aspect of a

brightly-wrappered novel. A specimen out of the ordinary is "The China General." By Hugh Talbot (Basil Blackwell; 3s. 6d.).—No. IV. in Tales of Action, a series of boys' books by well-known writers. The "General." by the way, is a china figure, the property of the hero's maiden aunt, and no relation to Chiang Kai-shek. Three others are "Under the Golden Dragon." A Story of King Alfred's Days. By Escott Lynn. Illustrated by J. R. Burgess; "In Quest of the Upas." A Tale of Adventure in New Guinea. By David Ker. Illustrated by John Mackay; and one for the girls—"The Chalet School and the Lintons." By Elinor M. Brent-Dyer. Illustrated by N. K. Brisley (Chambers; 3s. 6d. each). Single stories for somewhat younger people, in which the motive is fantastic fun rather than adventurous thrills, are well exemplified in "Mr. and Mrs. Tomnoddy." By M. M. B. Higham. With nearly 300 Illustrations (Longmans; 6s.); "Happy Families." A Story for the Young of All Ages. By Harry Graham (author of "Ruthless Rhymes"). Illustrated by Lewis Baumer (Cape; 7s. 6d.); "Coot Club." By Arthur Ransome. With many Illustrations (Cape; 7s. 6d.); and "Jane Sprogg and Her Family." By Gilly Sands. Pictured by Isabel Compton (Newnes; 5s.). The Junior Muse of Fiction (if there is one) has certainly been kept busy. one) has certainly been kept busy.

Another recurrent and ever-popular feature of the Christmas picture-book display is the hardy Annual. Here Messrs. Raphael Tuck are again to the fore, as usual, with "Tuck's Annual." (3s. 6d.) for the elder children, and another for the tiny tots entitled "Father Tuck's Annual." for Little People (3s. 6d.). Both are lavishly illustrated, and contain "unfolding panoramas" of a gaudiness not to be surpassed. This favourite device is also used in a thinner album—"We've Tales to Tell" (1s. 6d.), not to be classed among the annuals, but none the less well suited to its public.

C. E. B.

Our readers will no doubt be glad to know that the excellent photograph of his Majesty the King at the microphone which is published as the double-page in this issue can be obtained in the form of a colour reproduction from the original colour-film taken at Sandringham. With the King's gracious permission, The Times is selling these plates for the benefit of the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children. They can be obtained for is. each (is. 1½d. post free) from the Publisher, The Times, Printing House Square, E.C.4, or from newsagents and booksellers. The picture occupies a space of in this issue can be obtained in the form of a colour

10½ by 12½ inches on stout paper measuring 15 by 18 inches, and is very well worth framing.

Our readers may be interested to learn that, in Our readers may be interested to learn that, in reply to a question advertised by the Waterman Company, "How old is your Waterman Pen?" thirty-four claims of fifty-year-old pens were received; 329 claims of pens in use from 40 to 50 years; and no fewer than 810 claims for pens that had had 30 to 40 years' service. This is surely a remarkable record, and one of which the Waterman Company, which celebrates its jubilee this year, may well be proud. Anyone who gives a Waterman's pen as a Christmas present may thus feel as certain as human mutability allows that the recipient of the gift will remember the giver gratefully for many, many gift will remember the giver gratefully for many, many years. Messrs. Watermans, of course, also produce propelling pencils and desk-stands suitable for all tastes.

The ninety-third edition of "Burke's Peerage, Baronetage and Knightage" for 1935, which marks its 109th year of publication, is now ready for publication by Burke's Peerage, Ltd., of 66, Basinghall Street, E.C.2. The price of the Ordinary Edition is £5 5s. The Special Edition, bound in morocco, costs £9 9s. Two separate volumes of the Peerage and Baronetage Section are sold at £2 2s. each; and the Knightage Section is sold separately at £1 10s. the Knightage Section is sold separately at £1 10s.

The invaluable "Whitaker's Almanack," 1935 The invaluable "Whitaker's Almanack," 1935 edition, is now ready, and, of course, is as thorough as ever. The general contents have been revised to the latest date. Amongst other things, the Consolidated Rate of Pay of Civil Servants is now shown for the first time. Tables have been introduced to show the trend of Prices, Production, and Industry in the principal Countries of the World and the distribution of Trade in the Principle Countries of the distribution of Trade in the British Empire, and tables now show the Occupations of the People of Great Britain, as indicated by the Census Returns of 1931. Cruising finds a place among the annual summaries.

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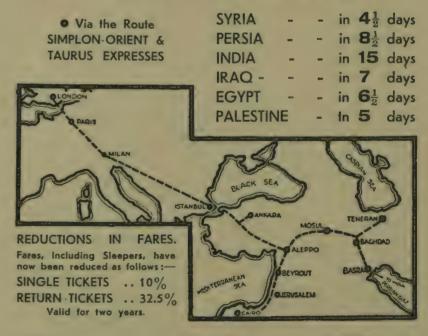
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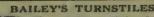
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By EDWARD E. LONG, C.B.E., F.R.G.S.

WINTER RESORTS ON THE RIVIERA

NE can understand why the French have named their Riviera the Côte d'Azur, for in the brilliant sunshine which the resorts of the Riviera generally enjoy, the water of the Mediterranean is azure in colour, and the contrast



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between it and the golden sands which fringe the shore is one of great beauty. Scattered along the coast are little islands, rocky and pine-clad, the Isles d'Or of Hyères and the Iles de Lerins near Cannes, the latter with thrilling historical associations; and, on the mainland, great mountains stretch their forest-clad slopes seawards, here gently, there sharply, terminating in great headlands, and the scenery is a fascinating blend of wild and rugged rocky grandeur and the softer beauty of hills and upland tracts clothed with orchards, and pasture, and vineyards, and fields of flowers which scent the air for miles around with their fragrance.

All seasons on the Riviera are charming, winter especially

All seasons on the Riviera are charming, winter especially so, because the resorts there, sheltered from cold northern winds by the lofty mountains which half ring them round, are bathed in sunshine day after day, what time dull skies and biting winds prevail in northern climes; and one can enjoy oneself to the full in the open air, either with golf, tennis, or yachting, walks along the delightful palm-lined promen-

oneself to the full in the oren air, either with golf, tennis, or yachting, walks along the delightful palm-lined promenades, or in excursions to interesting spots inland. In fact, you can spend a winter holiday on the Riviera much as you spend a summer one in some places, the only difference being that the hours of daylight are shorter; but this entails no hardship, for the resources of the Riviera as regards amusement are well-nigh infinite, and in whatever direction your tastes lie, you will find it nearly as easy to gratify them as in any of the great capitals of Europe.

The choice of a resort is not an easy matter where there are several such excellent ones, but you will be hard indeed to please if, among the larger places, Monte Carlo fails to meet with your requirements. Some people have an idea that, unless you are keen on the tables, there is little else for you to do in Monte Carlo, whereas the truth is there is so much else to do that the choice is quite bewildering. Tennis is played on twenty courts at the most attractive Country Club, where there is seating accommodation for 5000 spectators, with tournaments in January, February, and April; the fine golf-course at Mont Agel is open all the winter; yachting is then in full swing; and motorists have the famous Rally in January and the Concours

Rally in January and the Concours d'Élégance in March to please them; and numbers of fine runs

in and about the neighbourhood, whilst even though you do not play, the scene at the world-famous Casino, unrivalled in the world, cannot fail to

unrivalled in the world, cannot fail to interest you.

Nice is the metropolis of the Riviera, and, old as it is, with a history which dates back to 300 years at least before the Christian era, it is extremely modern and well planned as regards its accommodation for the visitor, and there is nowhere a finer or more fashionable promenade than the palm-fringed Promenade des Anglais at Nice, whilst its "Battle of Flowers" during Carnival Week is world-famous. Cannes

is known to Frenchmen as the Ville des Fleurs, and the wealth of blossom you see in its gardens reveals its right to the title; moreover, nearby is Grasse, where, ever since the Middle Ages, the perfume from the flowers of the Riviera has been distilled, and for luxuriant vegetation, extraordinarily tropical in character, and delightful situation, Hyères is hard to rival; whilst Menton, seen best from Cap Martin, has a setting of great beauty. Among the smaller resorts are Beaulieu-sur-Mer, another spot famed for its tropical luxuriance, and said to be the only place in Europe where the fan-palm is indigenous, and the banana ripens; St. Raphael, with pretty walks amid pine woods; and Juan-les-Pins, with its perfect beach.

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THE CHRONICLE OF THE CAR.

By H. THORNTON RUTTER.

M OTORISTS are confronted with many new regulations which will come into force on Jan. 1 and later dates of 1935. The most pleasant of these will be the 25 per cent. reduction of the horse-power tax on private cars, which is reduced from £1 to 15s. per rated horse-power. But Governments have a habit of giving with one hand and taking away with the other; so, having reduced the horse-power tax, they have added a new law which gives the right to claim from the motorist 12s. 6d. for doctors' fees by all persons injured by coming into contact with a motor vehicle, whether the cause of the accident was his fault or not. Even if a pedestrian or a cyclist carelessly runs into a stationary car, the owner of it will still be responsible for the doctor's fee if injury results. Because of this well-meaning but utterly unjust-to-motorists law, the leading insurance organisations, commonly called "the tariff companies," propose increasing the premium rates of insurance for motor vehicles in densely populated areas, as it will be the insurance companies that will have to pay these 12s. 6d. fees to the claimants. So London, Glasgow, South Lancashire, Birmingham, and Liverpool motorists will be asked to pay from 10 to 20 per cent. increase on their present premium rates for motor policies which are renewed after Jan. 1.

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Also all the new policies issued by the various tariff companies will be at a higher rate for annual premiums as compared with those issued previously. Why motorists and the insurance world did not get together and put up a properly organised opposition to this compulsory doctor's fee is past understanding. But then, in Great Britain the 3,000,000 holders of driving licences and owners of cars have never taken the trouble to form a voting machine. Consequently, Parliament seldom takes much notice of protests from the various motoring organisations, because they do not fear their votes will unite and be used at election time because of ill-timed laws against motorists. There is some excuse for the insurance people, as they can pass on their liability to the insurer by increasing the premium demanded. And that actually will happen in the present instance. So far, the non-tariff insurance companies offer not to raise their prices, but, if actuarily the tariff companies find this necessary, common sense tells us that it will only be a question of time when all insurance of cars will cost more under the new laws, whether the insurers are tariff or non-tariff concerns. No business can continue indefinitely at a loss.

are tariff or non-tariff concerns. No business can continue indefinitely at a loss. It is an ill wind that blows nobody any good, so that, while some folk may argue that the new law which compels drivers to pass a test of ability to control the vehicle, and of knowledge of the common practice of users of the highways (otherwise the Highway Code), will not produce better safety, it will benefit the various schools which teach drivers how to control motor vehicles. It was announced at the annual dinner of the Automobile Engineering Training College and the College of Aeronautical Engineering, at Grosvenor House Hotel on Dec. 4, that the British School of Motoring was opening branches of its excellent school in all the chief towns of Great Britain, where new drivers could receive their tuition on dual-controlled cars. I know that the instructors of the British School of Motoring, Chelsea, really do know their work, and I have sent a large number of people to take lessons from them. But the fear in the past has been that pupils are rather apt to want to cut down the number of hours of lessons to a minimum. Now, as they have to satisfy a Government Inspector of their ability, pupils will have to continue taking lessons until their instructor is certain that they can pass the test set, both practically in driving and in road knowledge. At any rate, all persons who received their first driving licence after March 31, 1934, will be called upon to pass a driving test before they will get a renewal of their driving licence. It will cost them 10s. as a fee to the inspector for testing them, and they must provide their own vehicle. On and after April 1, 1935, applicants for their first driving licence will be issued a temporary one for a month, in order that they may qualify to pass the test at the end of that period. Consequently, there should be plenty of pupils for all the new schools, as roughly some 300,000 new licences are issued for the first time each year.

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Lord Nuffield paid a well-merited compliment recently to the safety driving of the great body of pilots of commercial motor vehicles, whether conveying goods or carrying passengers on coaches and "buses." "Considering the great number of additional signs and new regulations of the highways," he remarked, "drivers to-day had a great deal of difficulty to keep their eyes on the road, where they should be." Yet, driving about as much as he did, it was rare to find the driver of a commercial motor vehicle who did not show every consideration for all other users of the thoroughfares. "They always gave the cue to the private-car driver to pass them, and drove themselves with far greater care for general safety than those in charge of the private car." The occasion of his remarks was the annual gathering of the London and Home Counties agents and distributors of Morris Commercial vehicles, at Messrs. Stewart and Ardern, Ltd., service station and depot at Acton, London.

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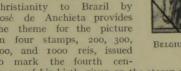
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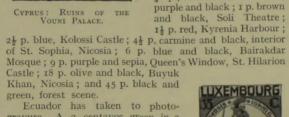
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green, forest scene.

Ecuador has taken to photogravure. A 2 centavos green in a new design has come to hand, in which a telegraph pole and a posthorn are illuminated by a flash of

the Blind (1310-1345). The design is attractive, but we miss the effective use of bi-coloured photogravure familiar in earlier Christmas series from the Grand Duchy.

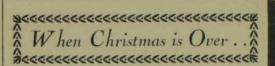
Norway gets some excellent effects in a small space by setting its subjects against a field of solid colour. A series of four values in honour of Baron Ludvig av Holberg, the Dano-Norwegian historian and dramatist (1684-1754), provides an interesting contrast with the earlier Ibsen, Abel, and Björnson stamps. These are photogravure, but their lettering is clear and distinct compared with the inscriptions on the recent English photogravure issues.

The current ordinary and air-mail stamps of the Saar have all been overprinted "Volksabstimmung 1935" (i.e., plebiscite) for the impending great vote on the country's destiny.

Spain has issued a mourning stamp, to be used during the current month, in memory of the late D. Santiago Ramón y Cajal, celebrated biologist and neurologist, and a Nobel Prize recipient. The portrait is a fine example of D. José Toda's engraving en creux, and the border includes a microscope.

The always-popular "Pro Juventute" or children's stamps of Switzerland this year depict girls from Appenzell (5 c.), Valais (10 c.), and Graubunden (20 c.); while the highest value, 30 c., has a portrait of Albert Haller, a statesman of Berne.

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